

Softer tone by Mr Carter over relations with Russia

President Carter has started to use a more conciliatory tone about the abortive mission to Moscow of his Secretary of State but the Soviet Union is still clearly incensed by the new administration's attitude to it. Mr Carter has widespread support in Washington but critics are starting to emerge.

'We will do all we can for mutual trust'

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, April 3
Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, returned to Washington last night after a visit to Moscow and other cities and was met at the airport by President and Mrs Carter as though he was returning in triumph.
The President, in a tone notably more conciliatory than his last remarks after the failure of the Moscow talks, said he believed the Russians would agree ultimately with the Americans and commended Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, and Mr Gromyko, his Foreign Minister, for very productive negotiations on many items that had been raised.
"Our whole Administration is devoting a great effort to the continuation of the talks," he said. "We will do everything we can to strengthen ties of friendship and mutual trust with the Soviet Union."
"I believe the Soviets will ultimately agree with us that it is to the advantage of the American people and the Soviet people and the rest of the world to reduce our dependence upon a destructive weapon."
Mr Vance was seen to shake hands with the Soviet leader, a move which he said was a step towards the future. They both said that they have agreed that things will go better if Mr Vance meets Mr Brezhnev again in Geneva next week.
Progress, by and large, has been made, he said, in applying the principle that the Russians must be able to live in peace with the Americans. Hawks of various stripes also approve the President's actions.
There are already plenty of signs, however, that Mr Joseph P. Kamp, the Soviet ambassador in the United States, is not happy with the new administration's policy. He has already said that the United States is not serious in its approach to the arms race.
He takes particular exception to a remark uttered by President Carter just before Mr Vance arrived in Moscow: "We people are concerned by the Brezhnev sneezes." Mr Vance said that this was a reference to Brezhnev's health.
Mr Carter, in the fullness of his machismo, challenged the toughness of the Russian leader, Mr Kamp says. In short, the kind of "unbridled crack no

Hundreds stranded by airport stoppage

By Christopher Thomas
British Airways has cancelled all domestic services from Heathrow today because of unofficial action by engineering workers. There will be no services from Heathrow to Europe either, but it is hoped to operate a limited number of long-haul inter-continental flights.

The airline said last night that apart from nine cancellations it hoped to operate long-haul flights today. There would be limited service between some regional airports and from some regional airports to Europe. Flights from Manchester, other than to London and Belfast should operate normally.

The disruption has been caused by an unofficial strike by four thousand members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) at Heathrow not to report for work yesterday. From today they have been told to work day shifts only, leaving night shifts uncovered, with no week-end or overtime working. They are demanding improved shift-patterns.

The issue is made more complicated because AUEW shop stewards at Heathrow have withdrawn from the local level of the traditional bargaining machinery and are demanding the right to negotiate pay and conditions rather than leave them to the national bargaining procedure. The demand is parallel with that of the Leyland toolmakers for separate bargaining rights.

A statement by the trade union side of the national joint council for civil air transport argued engineering workers to continue normal working. A telegram was also sent to Mr Hugh Scanlon, president of the AUEW, asking him to intervene.

Mr Kenneth Wilkinson, engineering director of British Airways, said that AUEW members who did not report for their shifts at the airport starting time from today would be sent home without pay.

Intercontinental flights affected today are to Hong Kong, Karachi, Melbourne, Kharum, New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Several hundred people were stranded at Heathrow yesterday.

The airline said that terminal one was a "disaster area" because of hundreds of stranded passengers whose holiday flights were cancelled. Sixty Spanish tourists protesting by clapping, singing, whistling and shouting for more than four hours.

Day of action called for April 20 is expected to close factories 1,700 shop stewards reject new curbs on pay

From Paul Routledge
Birmingham
More than 1,700 shop stewards from Britain's car plants, coal mines, docks, engineering works, offices and building sites yesterday condemned any attempt by union leaders to extend wage restraint for a third year. A day of action has been called for April 20, when widespread unofficial strikes are likely.

At a mass gathering in Birmingham town hall called by the British Leyland shop stewards' committee to mobilize opposition to further pay curbs agreed between the TUC and the Government, delegates declared "total opposition" to a continuation of incomes policy.

In a show of militancy that bodes ill for the success of the forthcoming talks on the social contract between Mr Hesley and senior union leaders, shop stewards from all over Britain and from a wide range of industries spoke out after another against continuing the restraint of the past two years.

Mr Derek Robinson, a communist, chairman of the Leyland combine, said workers would not accept any "dictate" from Mr Callaghan, Mr Hesley or Mr Pidgeon, the Liberal economic spokesman, that would determine their wages. The rank and file were sick and tired of not being able to negotiate at the point of production wages appropriate to their work.

Mr Robert Wright, assistant general secretary-elect, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the left's candidate in the forthcoming presidential election to find a successor to Mr Hugh Scanlon, argued that it had been a mistake to support the social contract, and the unions' role was now to unite and fight for "real socialism".

He warned trade unionists to be on their guard against a "quick deal" between the TUC General Council and the Government. The only way to prevent that was for the rank and file to show its antagonism to wage restraint now. "Such a deal would split the Labour move-

ment right down the middle", he added.
The TUC economic committee is not due to give a considered judgment on Mr Hesley's Budget and its offer of tax concessions in return for a third year of voluntary wage curbs until April 13. But the left evidently fears that a private bargain may be struck between the Chancellor, his senior ministers and the handful of union leaders who dominate the TUC's negotiations.

That such a deal would arouse powerful antagonism on the shop floor was clear from yesterday's proceedings. After the speeches Mr Robinson said that most of British Leyland's 37 motor plants would be closed on the day of action and other factories had signified their intention to follow suit, including Rolls-Royce. The day of action is timed to coincide with the reassembly of Parliament, and a mass lobby of MPs is planned.

Twenty-two pits were represented at the conference. Mr Arthur Scargill, the Yorkshire miners' leader, added a threat:

Seeing stars on the hungry road to Ilkley

By Stewart Tendler
As I left, dyspeptically, a hamburger establishment in London yesterday, a small, tubby man with a red volume under his arm accosted me in the crowded street. Gesturing past three Indian curry houses, a Chinese take-away shop and a Vietnamese sandwich bar, he asked excitedly: "Quelle est la route pour Ilkley, s'il vous plait?"

Sensing mystification, he drew out the book, revealing it to be the latest edition of the *Michelin Red Guide to Great Britain and Ireland*. With trembling hands he turned to Ilkley, in West Yorkshire. There, in the gastronomic bible, were two stars against the Box Tree Cottage restaurant.

He explained in halting English that it was the first time any British restaurants had achieved the accolade of "excellent cooking" from the French. I told him it was a long way from London.

He nodded, flicked through the pages and found three more restaurants with two stars. How far was the Waterside Inn at Bray, Berkshire, or the Connaught in Mayfair, or Le Gavroche in Chelsea?

Halting his excited salivation, I pulled out the 1977 editions of the *Good Food Guide*, *Egon Ronay's Lucas Guide* and the *Automobile Association's Guide to Hotels and Restaurants*. The last gave the Connaught, Le Gavroche and the Box Tree its top award of three roses, but two for the Waterside Inn.

In the *Good Food Guide* all four had top ratings, but in *Egon Ronay's* the Connaught had fallen from the top rating of three stars last year to two stars, and so had the Box Tree Cottage. "Impossible," muttered the gourmet as we saw that Le Gavroche had two stars but the Waterside Inn had lost its only star.

Mr Ronay has accused the Michelin guide of being orientated to classic French cooking and little else. When told that, the gourmet shrugged.
It was true that the Waterside Inn was owned by M. Albert Roux and his brother, M. Michel Roux, both Frenchmen. It was true that M. Michel Roux was a top French chef and had won a top French award for cooking last year and the brothers have a hundred French people among their staff.

He admitted that the Connaught employed a French maître d'hôtel, but he said that the Box Tree was a "real English" restaurant. He added, by way of then "les amateurs": "I showed him the entry in last year's *Ronay* guide which said the cooking was drawn 'with discrimination from classical French repertoire'."

Of course, said the gourmet, who, I now realized, was a figurement of my hungry imagination: "We are not talking of the fish and chips or your roast beef and Yorkshire pudding."
He smiled and asked if I would like to celebrate the new recognition of British cuisine. I pointed out that it was Sunday afternoon and the public houses were shut. "You have a long way to go yet," he said.

"Can I fly to Ilkley?" I explained about the British Airways strike.
Continued on page 2, col 6

Government sure of petrol vote majority

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter
Although the Conservatives will press for a vote in the Commons tonight against the 53p a gallon increase in the price of petrol, the Government is expected to avert defeat with the cooperation of the Liberals.

Mr Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, will confer with his colleagues today on whether the party should vote with the Government or abstain, but in either case the Conservatives, even with the assistance of all the other minority parties, will be unable to carry the vote in the division.

The Liberals are opposed to the petrol price increase but have been told in forthright terms by ministers that a defeat would throw doubts on the Government's survival by wrecking the Budget strategy.

However, Mr Steel and Mr Padoa-Schioppa, party spokesman on Treasury affairs, have been informed that they are entitled to table amendments to the Finance Bill to restore the position, and it will be interesting to see whether the Government frontbench spokesmen tonight will give a public indication of ministerial sympathy. Much will depend on the framing of the amendment and what it entails.

With the Liberals offering that cooperation as part of the pact between the two sides, the Government will survive its first crucial vote before the Easter recess, much to the wrath of the Conservatives.

That was shown yesterday when Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that the "fragile foundations of the Liberal Party have been very quickly laid bare by the day-to-day operation of their so-called arrangement with the Prime Minister."

When the crunch came on the Budget resolution on petrol, where should the Liberal vote? he asked at the West
Continued on page 2, col 6

Giscard states political importance landing rights for Concorde

April 3.—President Giscard d'Estaing had raised the issue of Concorde landing rights in his campaign to persuade the United States Administration to allow Concorde, the sonic strider, a fair landing in New York.

Emphasized the political nature of the Concorde issue in a 90-minute discussion in the White House today with Mr. Vance, the new States Secretary of State, who stopped here on his way from the abortive talks on arms limitations.

President Giscard d'Estaing had raised the issue of Concorde landing rights in his campaign to persuade the United States Administration to allow Concorde, the sonic strider, a fair landing in New York.

The Elysée spokesman said after the meeting: "It is not just a technical problem. It is a political problem which will have important political consequences if New York refuses Concorde landing rights."

The spokesman quoted M. Giscard d'Estaing as telling Mr Vance: "The French and British governments and public

opinion attach great importance to the matter. It will be a serious matter to underestimate the political importance of the Concorde issue."

Other topics raised during the meeting were Mr Vance's talks in Moscow, the dangers of nuclear proliferation and rapidly changing situation in Africa.

Shortly after Mr Vance left the Elysée Palace, President Sadat of Egypt arrived for lunch and talks with M. Giscard d'Estaing—Renter.

Briton held in Swedish 'revenge plot' case

From Our Correspondent
Stockholm, April 3
A British subject was among 12 suspects being detained in Stockholm tonight in connection with an international terrorist plot to kidnap a leading Swedish politician and imprison her in a cramped wooden chest with air holes.

Two other suspects arrested in the Swedish capital on Friday, Norbert Eric Kröcher and Manfred Richard Adomeit, who were said to be members of West Germany's Red Army Faction, were deported this afternoon. They arrived in West Germany last night.

Swedish authorities and British Embassy officials in Stockholm declined to comment on the detention of the Briton, Mr Alan Hunter, aged 23, who emigrated to Sweden four years ago.

The suspects are being held in connection with what police describe as a revenge plot to kidnap Mrs Anne-Greta Leijon, the former Minister of Immigration.

Two years ago Mrs Leijon ordered the extradition from Sweden of a Baden-Meinhold gang member who was badly wounded when the group stormed the West German Embassy in Stockholm.

He was removed to West Germany against the advice of Swedish doctors, and died a few days later. According to police, the terrorists held Mrs Leijon personally responsible for the death and planned to kidnap her on April 24—the second anniversary of the embassy incident.

"I am immensely relieved this is all over," Mrs Leijon said in a statement. "I've been very afraid."

According to a Government statement tonight, the National Police Board wants to deport Mr Hunter, but so far no action has been taken on the request.

60 injured in riot outside Irish prison

From Our Correspondent
Dublin
Sixty people were injured outside Portlaoise prison yesterday in clashes between security forces and Provisional Sinn Féin supporters demonstrating in support of 22 IRA prisoners who have been on hunger strike for four weeks. A number of arrests were made.

The injured included 10 policemen. Four persons are in hospital, detained overnight, but none is seriously ill.

About a thousand Sinn Féin supporters arrived in the town by coach during the day to take part in the demonstration. Troops and police sealed off the approaches to the jail, and almost immediately they were pelted with stones, bottles and sticks.

The police and troops baton-charged, and running battles with the demonstrators took place over a wide area. At one stage an effort was made to drive a car through a police cordon but it was blocked in the charge of the demonstration persuaded their supporters to abandon the attempt.

Expecting trouble, the authorities had drafted 500 troops and police into the town. The hospital called in extra staff.

After the clashes the demonstrators held a meeting about a quarter of a mile from the town and speakers said the prisoners' hunger strike would continue. The strike was started in support of demands for the restoration of facilities and privileges withdrawn recently. Six of the men on strike were removed on Saturday to the Curragh military hospital in Co. Kildare.

The Irish Republic has paid out £167m since 1969 in day-to-day security against the Provisional IRA, according to a survey by the *Sunday Independent*. The newspaper reported that the pay bill alone for the defence forces since 1963 was £18m more than it might otherwise have been. The estimated extra cost for police work over the period was £49m.

THE BUSINESSMAN'S GUIDE TO THE LUNCHING WEEK.

MONDAY The Roof Restaurant, 300 feet above London, the cuisine is, naturally, haute.

TUESDAY St George's Bar. A pub lunch like pub lunches used to be, by George.

WEDNESDAY Scandinavian Sandwich Shop, Roppe's Danish sandwiches and a tasty hot dish.

THURSDAY The Wellington. A meal for a Duke, without paying a King's ransom.

FRIDAY Inter-Vict. International and Eastern exotica. Cocktails even more so.

SATURDAY The London Hilton. Real English fare, for beef-eaters.

Phone 493-8000 to book a table at any of our restaurants.

THE LONDON HILTON
Six restaurants under one roof.

K reserves in arch heading all-time peak

K reserves are expected to hit an all-time high when the figures are published today. The peak was \$7,824m in November 1974, and last February the already totalling \$7,737m.

Intervention by the Bank of England is believed to have added \$1,000m in currencies in its hold down sterling parity.

h tapes decoding starts today of the tape messages from the pilots of ch and American jumbo jets in last Sunday's Tenerife

The Dutch tape decoding is "backpacking" by the is and Spaniards.

New light on Bentley hanging controversy

New information on why Derek Bentley was refused a reprieve after being sentenced to death for his part in a policeman's murder in 1953 is contained in a biography of Lord Goddard, the judge at his trial. Bentley's execution caused a public outcry.

Football stabbing

Thirty-two people were injured on Saturday at the football match between Norwich City and Manchester United. Twenty arrests were made and a youth was admitted to hospital with stab wounds. A number of those hurt were police officers.

Podgorny aftermath

Leaders of the "front line" states around Rhodesia assembled in Mozambique to discuss Russia's offer of military aid to black liberation movements in southern Africa. President Podgorny ended his 12-day visit to Africa yesterday and flew home to the Soviet Union.

MPs fear effects of boundary changes

Many Labour MPs are troubled by the prospect of losing their seats as a result of constituency revisions proposed by the English boundary commission. The changes, which would affect elections from 1979, are expected to benefit the Conservatives, who already hold most of the seats in England.

Steelworks halted

Port Talbot steelworks was brought to a standstill by an unofficial strike of 520 electricians over pay differentials. More than 6,700 men were made idle by the action.

Memorandum: The offer to sell Memmore Towers to nation expires tomorrow

Rhodesia: Authorities deny church worker was shot by troops.
Cyprus: Greeks accuse Turks of bad faith as talks for ending divisions on the island break down.
Education and Islam: A six-page Special Report on the Muslim world's reaction to the scientific culture of the West.

Leader page 12
Leaves Army training in peacetime from Major-General J. W. Statter on the Stachford by-election from Mr Alan Campbell, QC, and Mr D. W. O'Callaghan; and on money supply and inflation from Professor Ivor Mills and Mr D. G. Johnson
Features, pages 10 and 12
Lord Chalfont sounds a warning against concessions to the Russians on nuclear weapons and John Mackintosh says Britain's defence cuts may be putting the West at risk; Brian Connell presents a profile of Europe's leading insurance man Arts, page 11
Ivory Wattle on *Present Laughter* at Leicester; John Higgins on *Wardner* (Colson); John Percival at the Royal Ballet; Richard Williams on *Bohdy* Hucherson; Stanley Reynolds on *All You Need is Love* (London Weekend)
Obituary, page 14
Viscount Radcliffe
Sport, pages 8-10
Cricket: West Indies collapse in fourth Test against Pakistan; Table tennis: World champion beaten at Birmingham; Tennis: Eddie Dibbs wins singles final
Business News, page 15
Financial Editor: Under the shadow of the big shareholder; Diversification issues for the tobacco companies; BP/Canary Oil's Capital gains tax
Hugh Stephenson: Why the Bank of England should speak out on money matters
Business feature: Melvyn Westlake looks at changes in the basic principles of taxation being discussed by the Meade committee
Business Diary in Europe; Conduct unbecoming an REC partner

HOME NEWS

Many Labour MPs see a threat to their future in commission's plans for changing constituencies

By Our Political Editor

As the Government asks party head offices and politicians to come to a judgment on the White Paper for direct elections to the European Parliament, many Westminster MPs confess that they are much more troubled by proposals coming from the English boundary commission. The proposals concern the revision of constituency boundaries in any general election from 1979 onwards, under the Redistribution of Seats Acts, 1949 and 1958.

The commission's first proposals, for Nottingham, are already controversial. One seat, Nottingham West, held by Mr Michael Eavis with a Labour majority of more than 9,000 votes, which has been regarded as a seat for life, is to vanish.

Mr Eavis has made a considerable name in the Commons as chairman of an expenditure committee and procedural specialist. Nottingham, West, is replaced by a reshaped constituency called Nottingham South, in which two of the stoutest Conservative wards from Mr Jack Dunnett's Labour-held constituency of Nottingham, East, are included.

Four of the strongest Labour wards from the constituency of Nottingham, West (Aspley, Beeston, Birkby, and Strelley) are transferred to Mr William Whitlock's Labour seat, Nottingham, North.

Among Nottinghamshire's county seats, Ashfield (Mr David Marquand for the time being), Bassetlaw (Mr Joseph Ashpin), Mansfield (Mr John Connolly), and Newark (Mr Edward Bishop), all Labour, are essentially retained.

But a new seat of Nottingham, Sherwood, is proposed with newly named constituencies of Broxtowe and Gedling. The change is a periodic strategy attempt by the English boundary commission to restore reasonable equality between constituency total electorates as inner cities lose population, voters move to suburbs, and new towns develop, especially in Conservative out-of-town areas.

The commission is using for its new review an electoral quota for each English constituency of 62,256 voters. No politician doubts that through-out England the advantage will lie with Conservatives, who in the present Parliament already have a majority of seats in England as a whole. Labour's strength in the Commons depends on Scotland and Wales.

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Nottingham, and its environs, 1979 raises serious questions about their future. MPs sitting for seats that may vanish will be entitled to stand for adoption in constituencies that have absorbed part of their own existing electorate, and bitter personal fights for places are in prospect.

For some MPs, mostly Labour, it will be a question of standing and fighting in re-mapped constituencies. If the boundary commission's recommendations go through after the long process of local inquiry, privately some of the jeopardized MPs, no matter what their views about United Kingdom membership of the European Community, admit that they would be directly or indirectly affected.

Mr Prior said that a Conservative government would get away from the "multitudinous" bodies, schemes and commissions that confused the field of training. Unless the revenue from oil was squandered in a few years of riotous living on a social security, British industry could be rejuvenated.

Incomes policy dominated the conference. Mr Peter Walker, MP for Trade and Industry, warned the Young Tories against adhering to a single economic doctrine, meaning monetarism. Everyone, he stated, now believed in some form of incomes restraint, without which wage demands became a competitive game between unions.

The Conservatives believed that people could be persuaded to moderate wage demands by national profit-sharing schemes and better understanding of capitalism. Mr Walker said the consequences of curbing unemployment, inflation, and of cutting public expenditure were disastrous.

Mr Raymond Hatter, chairman of the Greater London Young Conservatives, said that an absence of compassion for the unemployed in Conservative policy would be the death of Sir Keith Joseph. He ought to resign, Mr Hatter said.

"Sir Keith is fired by a sort of political fundamentalism which to my mind brings back images of Oswald Mosley. By his inflexibility, against the Tories, he has put all and the time must surely have arrived when we must invite Sir Keith to embark upon a 'statutory cooling off period' on the back benches."

On Saturday the necessity for incomes policy was urged by Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, who called the recent Budget a useful starting point for negotiation of the possible phase three of the social contract. He said that a Conservative government committed to free collective bargaining would face massive pay demands from the miners, power workers, and his own men.

Mr Horace Cutler, opposition leader on the Greater London Council, told the conference that if the Conservatives were elected next month he would commission an inquiry into the powers and responsibilities of the GLC, the London Education Authority, police and water authorities, and the City of London.

He promised a purge of left-wing staff at county hall, saying that he would have "pink" groups in the GLC. He predicted that policies in the London Conservatives' manifesto, to be published this week, might lead to "differences" with the trade unions.

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Pay policy a fact of life, Tory argues

By a Staff Reporter

A Government pay policy was presented yesterday as a fact of life by Mr James Prior, Opposition spokesman on employment, in a speech to the annual meeting of Greater London Young Conservatives in Bournemouth.

"Free collective bargaining as we have known it does not produce prosperity or jobs; if it had we would never have given it up," he said. The difficulties of income restraint were technical, rather than philosophical, and opposition to control could be overcome by greater openness by companies.

Conservative pay policy would be accompanied by a reduction in the bureaucracy setting for training, and an expansion of training. Mr Prior said that a Conservative government would get away from the "multitudinous" bodies, schemes and commissions that confused the field of training. Unless the revenue from oil was squandered in a few years of riotous living on a social security, British industry could be rejuvenated.

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Mr Horace Cutler, opposition leader on the Greater London Council, told the conference that if the Conservatives were elected next month he would commission an inquiry into the powers and responsibilities of the GLC, the London Education Authority, police and water authorities, and the City of London.

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New light on why Bentley reprieve was refused

By Marcel Berlins

New information has been disclosed about the reasons behind the still controversial decision by Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, Home Secretary in 1953, not to reprieve Derek Bentley, who had been sentenced to death for his part in the murder of a policeman.

The execution of Bentley caused an outcry which was seen as the starting point for the campaign that eventually resulted in the abolition of capital punishment.

The shot that killed Police Constable Miles was in fact fired by Bentley's accomplice, Christopher Craig, while Bentley was being held by other policemen. Craig, however, as he was only 16, was too young to be hanged.

Sir David's reasons for refusing a reprieve were never given in his lifetime. Now, in a biography of Lord Goddard, who was the judge at the trial, Sir David's widow, Sylvia Countess De La Warr, has told Mr Fenton Bressler what her husband said to her.

She said: "His reasoning, as I remember it, was that if a young man of Bentley's age got off because he went out on that kind of enterprise with an even younger man who did not have a chance of surviving, it would be an encouragement to similar exploits in the future."

"He felt all young men would take out someone slightly younger on a felonious enterprise armed with a gun. It would be a marvellous escape-hole for the public," he said.

The book, published today, also contains new evidence about Lord Goddard's attitude to Bentley's execution. Mr Bressler says that in an interview in 1952 Lord Goddard told him: "Although Craig's offence was the greater of the two, they were both equally guilty of murder and should equally have hanged."

Once Parliament has said that persons of 18 I do not see over the age of 18 I do not see should be expected to observe a higher age limit. Because they could not hang the one does not mean to say they should not have hanged the other."

Mr Bressler's evidence is in direct conflict with that put forward by Mr David Yallop in his 1971 book, *To Encourage*

Other. Mr Yallop says that in an interview in 1970 Lord Goddard said: "Yes, I thought Bentley was going to be reprieved. He certainly should have been."

The discrepancy between the two versions is attributed by Mr Bressler to the fact that when his interview took place Lord Goddard was "a vigorous 84-year-old". Mr Yallop saw him when he was 93, within a few months of his death, and when his faculties had waned considerably.

A further, but ambiguous piece of evidence comes from Lord Goddard's former housekeeper, who remembered that when he came back from the Central Criminal Court after Bentley's trial he had said to her: "Well, I had to sentence him to death. But don't worry. He won't be hanged."

Mr Bressler also disagrees with Mr Yallop's theory that PC Miles had been killed, not by a bullet from Craig's gun but by a stray bullet fired by one of the policemen.

Former Det Sergeant Fairfax, who was shot and wounded when pursuing Craig, said when interviewed for the first time on the issue that at the time

none of the police was armed because the guns requested had not yet arrived.

The biography of Lord Goddard suggests that his own sense of duty and his own sense of justice were frequently followed by his sentences. "This strong language was very often used by him to help him pass a lesser sentence than would otherwise have been regarded as right," Lord Dillhorne says.

Lord Goddard's eldest daughter, Pamela, says: "Whatever people may say, I know he hated announcing the death sentence." She also confirms that Lord Goddard, a firm believer in corporal punishment, used it on his daughters.

"Many a time did I have to bend over and receive six of the best from his hands on that portion of the anatomy which I was advised by him and implicitly believed, was specially designed for the purpose. In spite of what many psychologists have said, I never close and loving relationship with him."

Lord Goddard, by Fenton Bressler (Harrap, £7.95).

Revolution call at the Pier Pavilion

From Robert Parker

The pleasant North Wales holiday resort of Llandudno, emerging from a sleepy winter season, is preparing for a weekend of powerful revolutionary debate.

The Pier Pavilion, where the Young Socialists, have just held their seventeenth annual conference, is packed with delegates, posters and established policies.

About 800 delegates and members from all over the country attended the conference in a hall that in the past has been a theatre for both Labour and Conservative party conferences.

The revolutionary philosophy of the Young Socialists appears to be providing a voice for the ever-increasing number of working-class youths of the towns and cities who are without jobs, and have never before been organized.

Leaders of the movement are clearly pleased at the number of young and discontented people who are joining many of the recruits from among school-leavers who are unable to get jobs.

Delegates were urged repeatedly to stand up and fight to smash every aspect of the present system, to take control of their own destiny, and not to leave it to the politicians and

union leaders; the latter two were portrayed as traitors to the working class and part of the assault against its members.

Recent articles from the *Financial Times* on unemployment were quoted by Mr Simon Pirani, the national secretary of the Young Socialists. He is a far-left Trotskyist speaker, who was the judge at the trial, Sir David's widow, Sylvia Countess De La Warr, has told Mr Fenton Bressler what her husband said to her.

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none of the police was armed because the guns requested had not yet arrived.

Terrorism in Ulster 'may end in year'

From Our Correspondent

Mr Claran McKee, a founder of the Northern Ireland Peace Movement, said yesterday that terrorism in the province might be all but over within a year. He told a three-day conference in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, that the philosophy of non-violence was winning.

The conference, called principally to draft a constitution for the movement, was attended by 200 delegates, including observers from Norway, Germany, England and Wales.

Mr McKee said that in some respects the efforts of the movement had made the violence worse. He thought support for violent groups was diminishing, and that there were more and more who see the end of the road for violence and who engage in even more violence in last desperate attempt to hold their influence by the gun and the bomb.

Delegates heard that income for the movement's first six months was £51,000, apart from £200,000 from Norway. About £8,500 had been spent on travel and promotion. Total expenditure was £39,695.

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Party conference backs deal with Government

From a Staff Reporter

Welsh Liberals overwhelmingly back the arrangements under which the Liberal Party is supporting the Government in Parliament. That was made clear at the party conference at Llandudno, Wales, at the weekend.

Mr Emyr Iwan Jones, leader of the party, told the conference that Liberals were bound in the unpopular in the short run because of the deal, and that there was always a chance that would break down.

Liberals, he said, acted in the interests of the country. Mr Hoosen said that Mr Hoosen was helping to destroy the "wilderness complex" that existed in the Liberal Party. Some Liberals, he said, were too precious, afraid of getting their hands dirty.

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refuse

HOME NEWS

Social workers change policy on sending under-16s to borstal

Lord Dwyer, Social Services Correspondent

Manchester

social workers yesterday accepted responsibility for the failure of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1969, when they endorsed the idea that they should stop recommending borstal training for offenders under the age of 16.

Mr Christopher Andrews, general secretary of the British Association of Social Workers, said at the association's family child care conference in Manchester that a working party was considering whether to order a ban on social workers recommending that juvenile offenders should be sent to borstals or detention centres. The working party's evidence showed that social workers were not ready to make such recommendations.

"We are not saying that children always need to be placed in a sloppily, sentimental way," he said. "Some will continue to need discipline, in an integrated system of decisions, made on the basis of the child's needs, not the arbitrary decision of a court for punitive rather than medical reasons."

Mr David Thorpe, lecturer in social work at Lancaster University, said that the failure of the Act was as much a fault of social workers as

Child benefit scheme is denounced as 'robbery'

The child benefit scheme, which came into force today, has been denounced as a robbery by the Child Poverty Action Group. The group says most families will receive no more than 30p a week and many poorer families will receive only one child will gain anything.

The scheme is £1 a week for the first child and £1.50 for subsequent children. Payments go to the mother and are for the scheme family allowances are being ended and child tax allowances reduced.

In a report on the scheme, *The Great Child Benefit Robbery*, the charity says the income of 30p is not enough to buy for one day's food for a child under two and will not cover the 50p increase in school meals planned for the summer. It is "another fine example of the Government running with one hand and hiding back with the other".

More graduates coming to jobs in industry

A change in the attitude of industry towards graduates is described in the report of the Cambridge University Appointment Board.

The staff have been aware of a much more active interest in industry, a much more general feeling that it is important as the wealth-generating sector, and a much greater readiness on the part of undergraduates to include manufacturing in their list of worthwhile and useful work, the report says.

Last year 236 Cambridge graduates out of 2,630 taking first degrees entered careers in manufacturing. The figure in 1975 was 153.

The board reports that the demand from industry this year was "encouragingly buoyant". Posts for well qualified graduates are available in quite large numbers in areas of industrial research with direct commercial application.

The availability of public posts at national and local level is greatly reduced, but universities are experiencing increased difficulty in finding places in chambers.

The board says last year asked a reversal in the traditional high demand for scholars. The number of places was 896, compared with 1,258 in 1975. But Cambridge graduates appeared to be suffering less than their fellows. Vacancies for mathematicians, modern linguists and scientists in the physical sciences were still high.

Middle tar cigarettes capture 70% of sales

The percentage of ex-manufacturers in Britain of cigarettes in the tar group for the years 1973 to 1976 were:

1973: 10.0 mg; 1974: 10.0 mg; 1975: 10.0 mg; 1976: 10.0 mg.

to middle (11-15 mg): 7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5.

to high (16-20 mg): 7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 7.5.

to high (21-25 mg): 15.1, 15.1, 15.1, 15.1.

to high (26 mg and over): 1.7, 0.6, 0.4, 0.4.

Health and Soc Sec, March 30.

payments: Average domestic payments in 1976-77 with effect from 1975-76 in parentheses, as follows: Wales, £59 (£51), high non-metropolitan districts, £58 (£50), metropolitan districts, £58 (£50), London, £148 (£145), Welsh Office, March 14.

working week: In April, 1976, 28 per cent of manual employees about 80 per cent of non-manual employees in Britain had normal hours of work or less, excluding main meal breaks and overtime.

Employment, March 29.

of sterling: The value of a pound expressed in US dollars, £1 = 1.93, £1 = 1.93, £1 = 1.93, £1 = 1.93.

Treasury, March 24.

Prospect of saving Mentmore fades

By John Young, Planning Reporter

Hopes that Mentmore Towers might at the last moment be saved for the nation are fading fast. Lord Rosbery's offer to sell the Buckinghamshire mansion and its contents to the Government expires tomorrow, and all attempts to mount a rescue operation appear to have foundered on the rocks of Treasury intransigence. The house will remain; it is listed grade I and so must not be demolished. Presumably it will eventually find a buyer.

The tragedy, future generations may feel, is that a fine example of Victorian gracious living will have been lost. The contents, which include much exquisite French and Italian furniture, Flemish tapestries, a fireplace designed by Rubens for his own house in Antwerp and the only known sporting picture by Gainsborough, are to be sold at auction by Sotheby's next month.

That will be one of the sale-room events of the century, and is expected to realize up to three times the figure of £3m for which the Government could acquire the house and contents. A treasure amassed at the height of Britain's prosperity will be dispersed little more than a century later.

As late as last Thursday, when it became known that Trafalgar House Investments had offered £500,000 for the lease, plus a further £500,000 for repairs and upkeep, there still seemed some chance that a deal could be arranged. The Government, having already offered £1m, it was suggested that the remaining £1.5m might be raised by interest-free loans to the Treasury, repayable over five years. But the Treasury response was that any such arrangement, however agreeable constituted a form of public expenditure which, in the absence of a supplementary estimate, would require compensating cuts elsewhere.

Despite a show of government solidarity on the issue, there seems no doubt that the Department of the Environment ministers feel their Treasury colleagues have been short-sighted. Lady Birk, the Under-Secretary responsible for historic buildings, hopes that even if Mentmore is lost the affair will at least prove a catalyst in changing the system.

"We need better machinery for protecting our heritage," she says. As it is, the tattered shell of Mentmore may well have to be taken over by the Government if there are no buyers, while most of the "treasure" is sold off to wealthy Arabs and Americans.

Nurseries aid 'only a minority'

Local authorities should stop building nurseries and invest instead in community projects to help families with young children, Mrs Sandra Edwards, chairman of the Pre-school Playgroups Association, said in Nottingham yesterday.

"Expensive nursery buildings do little to remove the underlying problems and only assist a privileged minority," she said. "All available cash should be spent in support of preventive, community-based projects, which encourage parents to become involved."

She told the association's annual conference that Britain could no longer afford expensive, purpose-built plant and immobile professionals.

Expenditure on nursery classes could not be justified "when hundreds of thousands of children in the care of child minders get little or no support".

Chinese children to be taught about Britain

By Michael Horsnell

Chinese children living in "take-away" shops in Yorkshire mill towns are to be given the opportunity of learning more about the language and culture of Britain. Under a Government-sponsored scheme they are to be taken temporarily from their homes and helped to learn English and improve their written Chinese.

Mr Brian Jackson, director of the National Educational Research and Development Trust, said: "Those delightful, hard-working children stand at risk between two major cultures. They need help in learning their own language, but above

Trawler men call on foreign fleets to 'stop cheating'

From Ronald Kershaw, Hull

Friction between British trawler owners and their continental counterparts is mounting. The British Fishing Industry claims that not only are foreign vessels employing illegal and destructive fishing methods, but they are also using the resulting higher catches as a basis for claims to increase fishing quotas.

The frustration felt by the industry at the apparent indifference of the European Commission was illustrated in a call

Answers in Parliament

A periodic digest of information given in parliamentary written replies with the sources and dates on which they appeared in Hansard.

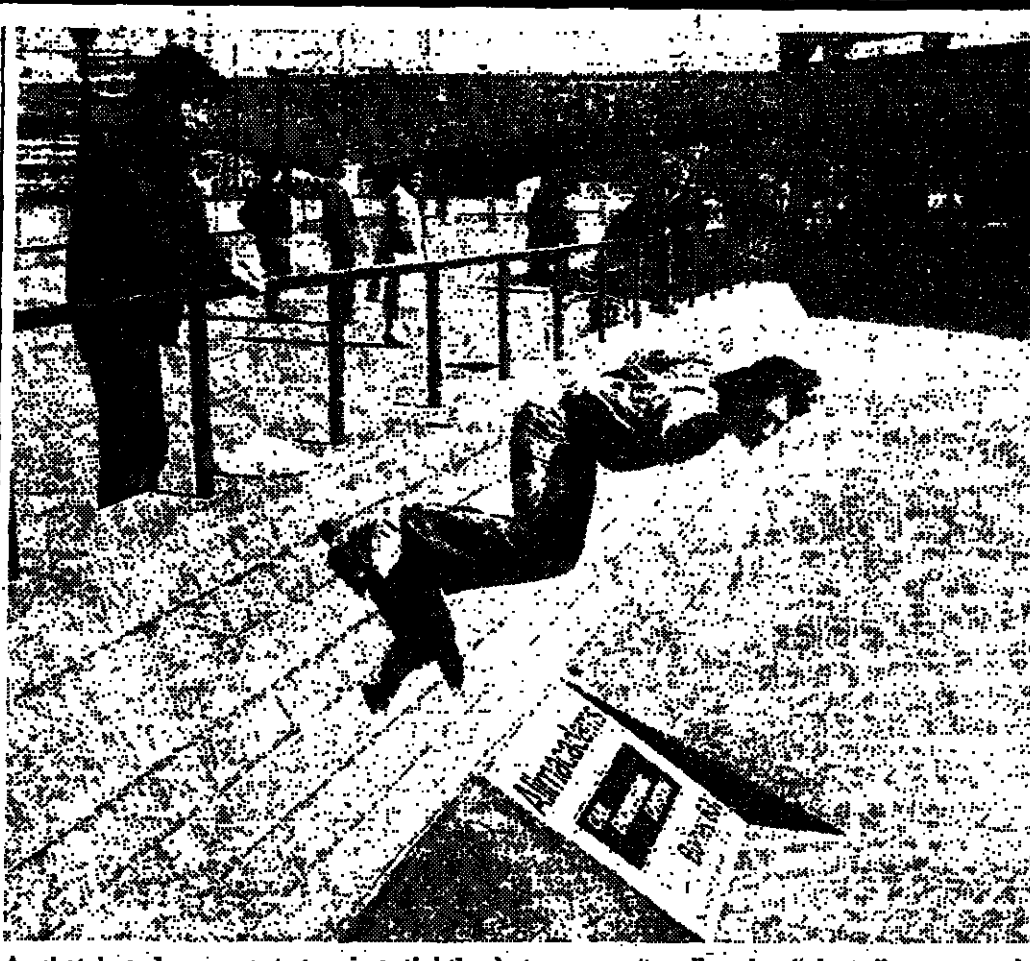
Hourly earnings: Average gross hourly earnings of manual workers in industry in each of the EEC countries in October, 1975 (with the 1964 figures in brackets) were: United Kingdom, £1.25 (£0.33); France, £1.22 (£0.28); Federal Germany, £1.87 (£0.36); Ireland, £1.15 (£0.23); Italy, £0.99 (£0.22).

Petrol taxation: A motorist driving 10,000 miles a year paid an average of £190 a year duty on petrol and £30 a year value-added tax on petrol before the higher duties announced in the Budget.

Transport, March 29.

Coal board investment: Average investment a person employed by the National Coal Board in the years 1974-75 was £1.94, 1975-76 was £1.94, 1976-77 was £1.94.

Energy, March 25.



A skateboarder performing a trick on a ramp, with a police officer standing nearby.

Hot weather may be cause of motorway cracking

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Last year's prolonged hot weather and the heavy rainfall afterward may have helped to cause severe cracking to the surface of the 13-mile elevated stretch of motorway north of Birmingham, the Department of Transport said yesterday.

The stretch, which is Europe's longest elevated motorway, includes "Spaghetti Junction" and links the M5 London-to-Cardiff route with the M5 from Birmingham to Exeter.

In the past few months more than 2,500 cracks, some up to 5in deep, have appeared on the motorway, which was built as an important feat of engineering when it was opened five years ago. The damage will cost at least £10m to repair.

Engineers believe that the cracking is caused by the joints inserted between the concrete sections of the road and covered by the asphalt surface. Though designed to allow the road to expand and contract in different temperatures, the joints have apparently failed to do so, causing the asphalt to crack.

The buried joint system was chosen after it proved successful on another stretch of elevated motorway, the Chiswick Flyover, in London. The system costs less than some other types of joint and because it is below the surface gives a smoother ride to vehicles.

After temporary repairs, now under way, the buried joints are to be replaced by the conventional surface type. That may mean considerable disruption to traffic for the motorway is used by up to 90,000 vehicles a day.

The Department of Transport emphasized that the cracking was on the surface only. The structure, including the slits on which the motorway is carried, is sound and presents no safety risk, it said.

New divorce procedure 'undermines marriage'

The new divorce procedure, which consists mainly of filling in a form, will undermine marriage and cost more, not save the taxpayer millions as forecast, it was said yesterday.

"It will create an attitude of irresponsibility towards marriage," Mr Arnold Wexler, a solicitor, said at the British Legal Association's annual conference at Cheltenham. Instead of treating marriage as something precious for life, people would tend to embark on it as a "licence for intercourse".

It would be like getting a television licence, then when you do not want it, you fill in a form and finish with it," said Mr Wexler, of the Council, Greater London. The whole scheme was a piece of monumental political folly.

The association, which represents 3,000 solicitors, passed a resolution deploring the abolition of legal aid for undefended divorce and the possible resulting increase in government spending.

Miss Shirley Griffiths, who has practised in London for 17 years, said that the new procedure for undefended divorce, which appropriately came into force on April Fool's Day, would lead to a chaotic situation.

Many people, particularly women, would still need advice, and extra court registrars and other costly civil servants would have to be appointed. The new scheme was improperly devised and the Law Society should have opposed it.

Mr C. R. Walker, of Burslem, Staffordshire, thought that it was an outrageous political decision aimed at the private lawyer.

Mr R. C. T. Beech, of Coventry, described it as a "solicitor-bashing exercise" under the guise of a money-saving scheme.

Two million 'drink too much'

Two million people in Britain regularly drink too much, Sir Bernard Brain MP, MP for the National Council on Alcoholism, told a conference of businessmen in Liverpool yesterday.

Almost one third of all alcohol consumed in Scotland goes down the throats of a mere 3 per cent of Scots. The figures, unlike the drink, might be hard to swallow, but they were facts, he insisted.

Others were that the problem drinker was three times as likely as other workers to have an accident at work, five times as likely to be off work and much more likely to be late, particularly on Monday mornings.

Before an employer condemned his drinking workers, though, he should ask himself if he had ever got into a bad argument, had an accident, had trouble with his job, or been off work, because of drink.

The gap between being a problem drinker and an alcoholic was wide, but the stigma of alcoholism would be removed only if other people admitted they sometimes stepped over the bounds into problem drinking.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer should provide more money for alcoholism counselling services, Sir Bernard said.

BBC radio lessons in spelling

By Our Arts Reporter

A series of programmes in response to complaints about shortcomings in spelling ability is being arranged as part of the BBC's plans for adult and further education in 1977-78.

The series will be broadcast on radio, complementing the successful literacy programme on television. The four 30-minute programmes have been designed largely in response to appeals from tutors involved in teaching adults to read.

They begin in December, with repeats in January, and are likely to be the forerunners of a longer series supported by a handbook.

New programmes for radio and television will embrace many topics of interest to viewers and listeners at home, in addition to students.

They will cover languages, golf, car maintenance, making children's clothes, running a home, and an examination of the prison system. Booklets giving more detailed information will be available in July, November and February.

Ship blaze at Belfast

Fire damaged an 11,000-ton Greek freighter, the Climax Opal, in Belfast harbour yesterday. The crew of 45 was evacuated safely.

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HOME NEWS

6,700 men made idle by strike at steelworks

From Trevor Fishlock
Port Talbot

Port Talbot steelworks, one of the largest steel plants in Europe, was brought to a standstill yesterday by an unofficial strike of 5,300 electricians demanding greater recognition of their skills.

More than 6,700 men were made idle and today will start signing on for benefit at emergency offices set up in church halls.

The strikers are isolated and determined to force a satisfactory outcome of a two-year struggle for more money and status as a reward for their skills.

The management is unwilling to negotiate while an unofficial strike goes on. It feels that to give the men what they want would have damaging repercussions throughout the industry and would be outside the pay code. It does not expect an early settlement.

The works supplies steel to the motor, canning, construction and domestic appliance industries. Most customers have steel in stock and the Troscire and Velindre steelworks in South Wales, supplied by Port Talbot, according to the British Steel Corporation, have "enough steel in stock for the time being".

Should the strike go on, however, other industries and jobs will be affected. The steelworks has been producing about 45,000 tons a week, roughly three quarters of its capacity.

Four thousand white-collar staff at Port Talbot are still working, and 1,800 men are being retained to ensure that blast furnaces and coke ovens are kept hot to avert damage. The trouble at Port Talbot lies in the belief among electricians that they deserve better grading and money for the work they do.

Two years ago they presented a pay claim to the management but were told it was not possible for them to be upgraded. Ten days ago they went on strike. Mr Wyn Bevan, their works convenor, said they had been forced to take action because negotiations were clearly fruitless. "We shall see this through," he said.

The matter is complicated because the strikers are at odds with the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union. Mr Bernard Clarke, its South Wales executive officer, has condemned the strike, saying it will lead to a loss of orders.

The electricians are annoyed by his comments and have passed a vote of no confidence in him. They have also criticised the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, which has asked its men at the works not to cooperate with the strikers.

Alleged offer of brainwashing training

Yard's interest in anti-cult body

By Michael Hoesnell

Scotland Yard's Special Branch is keeping an eye on an organization in west London dedicated to the overthrow of what it calls cult religious groups.

Inquiries by *The Times* reveal that the group, Peoples Organized Workgroup on Ersatz Religions (POWER), is offering to train "deprogrammers" in brainwashing techniques, which would be used against young cult followers as a means of persuasion.

In a manual prepared by the group, which is based on techniques practised in the United States, POWER suggests that kidnapping may be a necessary first step to a worried parent should take in an attempt to wean a young person from a cult he has been persuaded to join.

The parent is then recommended to hand over the young person to a trained deprogrammer, who will brainwash him against the cult, using techniques like sleep withdrawal, starvation, verbal stress, and, in some cases, shame inducement through nudity and "aggression".

Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, has been asked to take action against POWER after criticism by the organization of a "cult" group called Enlita, whose members are interested in the tarot cards and palmistry as investigative sciences.

Police inquiries suggest that POWER may be only a one-man organization, and there is no evidence that brainwashing techniques advocated by it have ever been used in Britain.

But there is growing concern that its general secretary, Mr Michael Heys, aged 25, who operates POWER from a flat in Ealing, west London, should say that he is in possession of a specialized knowledge of techniques that experts say could be highly effective.

Dr William Sargent, honorary consulting psychiatrist at St Thomas' Hospital, London, and

a leading British authority on brainwashing, told me: "These techniques sound very effective, if extremely crude. They are workable and very terrifying."

Mr Sargent, who recently met Miss Patricia Hearst, the American newspaper heiress who was convicted of bank robbery, at the invitation of her lawyers, told me that brainwashing techniques advocated by POWER are similar to those employed against her.

Mr Heys has recently been trying to establish a residential centre for "former cult members" and to set up POWER contacts at universities in Britain.

Vehement denials by some of those of any association with POWER suggest that Mr Heys need not be taken too seriously if it were not for his professed specialized knowledge of brainwashing.

Professor James Fairbairn, of the School of Pharmacy, London University, was asked by Mr Heys to act as a POWER contact. He told me: "To my horror, without any consultation, my name has been included on leaflets put out by POWER."

Professor Fairbairn originally wrote to Mr Heys in response to a letter from him to the School of Pharmacy. But he was unaware of POWER's promotion of brainwashing techniques and simply offered as an active Christian worker to help any of his own students in difficulty.

POWER's nine-page manual on "deprogramming", *The Constructive Destruction of Belief: A Manual of Techniques*, states: "Deprogramming is the skilled application of any technique necessary to bring about in a subject the total rejection by him of those attitudes, beliefs, ideals and loyalties which are considered undesirable. In addition, their replacement by those qualities that are considered necessary."

It describes the need to "kidnap" a cult adherent as a first step towards "deprogramming", and advises professional "deprogrammers" on means of evading police interference.

If it goes on to advise the employment of a "deprogramming assistant" who should be "of a sizable stature and very fit", and then details complicated "deprogramming" techniques, including shame induction through nudity.

On that the manual says: "The subject is stripped with the assistance of the assistant. Most subjects are very body conscious and having to stand naked in front of their opponents causes a person to become a temporary introvert. The assistant must also take advantage of this weakness to bring home forcefully to the subject even the smallest flaw in his physical make-up. It should be noted that the subject must be accompanied when making any visit to the toilet. Apart from this, by the way, no other hygiene is allowed."

In an interview Mr Heys told me that he has trained about four deprogrammers through the use of the POWER manual and said that "several" successful deprogrammings have been carried out. He said that his decision to declare war on fringe cults began after his friend joined a sect called the Children of God in the West Country.

"I decided something should be done about cults," he added. "I put the manual together through information I received and I am a deprogrammer myself. A bright guy who picks up the training quickly can be fully trained in about a month on average. It has been practised quite openly in the United States and it is not dangerous if it is done properly, but there might be the odd occasion when it is dangerous, where the techniques are in the wrong hands."

It is not necessary for me to defend my methods. Kidnapping and some of the techniques in deprogramming are justifiable because they are part of what is necessary to get rid of the cults. Cults brainwash people and deprogramming them is a way of 'unbrainwashing' them."

He fought on economic grounds and that such evidence is lacking. Nor does responsibility for producing the evidence appear to be settled.

Evidence is needed on the cost to industry of converting production lines and on the cost of new installations. The paper also wants some estimate of the proposed system's impact on British trading statistics.

There should be proof that the claimed safety advantages of 16-amp plugs are real and that the ergonomics of the system are satisfactory for users, particularly the disabled, it says.

Proposals for 16-amp system criticized

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

With the British Standards Institution sponsoring a conference today in London to discuss the proposed 16-amp electrical socket for international use, the National Consumer Council and the Consumers' Association have chosen the occasion to publish a background paper on the subject.

They disapprove of the proposed socket, the adoption of which would mean replacing all sockets and plugs by a new, international design.

They feel that even before consumers have finished stan-

dardizing on the 13-amp system they will have to start on the transfer to another format which may take until AD 2040 to complete.

"What we have heard so far," the council and the association say, "does not convince us that the new plug has any advantages that are worth the chaos of a changeover. Nobody has worked out in detail what it will cost. We are willing to listen to hard evidence that the proposal will benefit somebody, if it can be produced."

The paper concludes that the case for the new system must

be fought on economic grounds and that such evidence is lacking. Nor does responsibility for producing the evidence appear to be settled.

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WEST EUROPE

European Economic Community
ECONOMIC POLICY AND EMPLOYMENT

Labour summit: Mr Callaghan, Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, Mr Nordli, the Norwegian Prime Minister, and Herr Heinz-Oskar Vetter, head of the West German trade union federation, left to right, at a meeting

of European social democratic party leaders and trade unionists in Oslo over the weekend. At the conference Herr Schmidt said he was not going to risk expanding the German economy too fast to mop up unemployment in Europe. Other speakers, including Mr

Callaghan and Mr Nordli, argued that the stronger economies should expand faster to increase demand for goods and reduce unemployment in the weak. Herr Schmidt said, however, that West Germany's top priority remained in fight against inflation.—Reuter.

Dutch hopeful of better news from decoding today of Tenerife tapes

From Sue Masterman
The Hague, April 2

The Dutch are awaiting with considerable interest the decoding of the cockpit voice recorders of the two jumbo aircraft involved in last Sunday's air disaster in Tenerife.

The process began yesterday in the laboratories of the National Transportation Safety Board in Washington.

These recorders will prove a decisive factor in the inquiry, the Dutch hope. The recorders should have tape, precisely what was said in the cockpits of the KLM and Pan-American jumbos and what was heard from the control tower.

The latter is essential, since, according to alleged copies of the control tower tapes, the crew of the KLM jumbo did not repeat, as is usual, the last instructions they received from the control tower.

These alleged copies of the control tower voice recordings have been offered to foreign journalists on the Tenerife black market since Thursday

for prices ranging from £1,200 to £2,000. Then and with silence after the control tower had given instructions to the Dutch KLM captain, saying: "Stand by. Call you for clearance."

The end of the copy tape has led to much speculation behind the scenes in Holland on the latest Spanish and American move in what is seen here as a multi-million "huck-backing" game. In this exercise manipulation of the media plays an important role.

Just before the copy tape ends, the KLM aircraft had received and read back clearly its normal air traffic control clearance for its flight plan, and all previous instructions had been repeated.

The Dutch believe that it is possible that control tower conversation with the Pan-American Clipper, on the same wavelength, blotted out part of the final instructions to the KLM aircraft. This Pan-American jumbo had been told to take the third turn-off from the runway in order to clear it for the

KLM take-off, but there is still confusion about which turn-off its pilot was trying to reach.

With visibility horizontally at 300ft or less, and vertical visibility almost zero, the Dutch believe he was aimed in good faith for what is, in fact, the fourth turn-off. If he had taken the third as instructed, he would never have been able to negotiate the 130-degree turn at the end on to the narrow taxi lane leading back to the runway, and would have to have been towed out.

The 248 coffins with the remains of the Dutch passengers and crew, all of whom died in the ensuing inferno, were flown back to Holland this weekend.

Many relatives have been shocked by visits from representatives of American payers, who want them to sign an agreement to launch proceedings for damages against Pan-American, with a percentage of the damages offered as fee. The Dutch still have a lot to learn about the American way of death.

Judges put Señor Suárez on spot

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, April 3

The confrontation between the Spanish Government and the Supreme Court over the legalization of the Spanish Communist party—and other left-wing political parties has created a grave political crisis, according to a statement published here today.

The Supreme Court was called on by the Government to decide whether the Communist Party should be legalized, together with the Carlist Party and other parties. The court declared yesterday that it was not competent to make administrative and not judicial decisions. It sent the papers back to the Ministry of the Interior.

The Government was hoping that the Supreme Court would have pronounced on the issue of March, and so absolved the Government from taking such a controversial decision.

In a statement, the Magistrates of the fourth Chamber, responsible for the decision on taking decisions over political parties of "dubious legality," said: "The judiciary cannot compete with, participate in, take the place of, or complement the Administration in the exercise of activities which are strictly administrative."

The court declared its incompetence in such matters. The judiciary did not wish to become involved in taking such blatantly clear political

decisions, it said. Of course, under the late General Franco it did. But times have changed. The communists said today that these decisions by the Supreme Court meant that the Government must "resolve without further delay the legalization of the Spanish Communist Party and other parties and organizations pending the elections."

"If it does not," it said, "then the Government will have gone back on what it said in the Law for Political Reform. The legalization of the Communist Party is the cornerstone of the sincerity of the democratic wishes of the Government. If this does not happen, then the general elections will be put in jeopardy and the process of democracy buried."

Rape victim accused of faking razor attack

From Our Correspondent
Rome, April 3

Italian feminists were angry this weekend after the victim of a rape case was told by a magistrate that he suspected her of faking part of her story.

Dr. Luciano Dell'Anno, Rome prosecutor, visited Signorina Claudia Caputi, aged 21, in hospital where she is recovering from razor wounds to her body. He told her she had under investigation on suspicion of faking the wounds on herself.

Signorina Caputi has alleged that the attack was carried out by three of the seven youths now on trial for raping her last summer.

She alleged she was abducted last Wednesday, taken to the countryside and raped and then slashed with a razor by the youths who warned her that she would be killed if she pressed charges against them.

Women liberation groups have called for a demonstration in front of the Rome Law Courts.

Signorina Caputi's lawyer, Dr. Tina Lagostina Bassi, said she would demand that Dr. Dell'Anno be declared unfit to deal with the case because of "grave hostility" towards her client.

Dr. Dell'Anno, who investigated the first rape case, said there was conflicting testimony about last week's alleged attack in a field.

Police sources said that although it had been raining throughout the day, the girls' clothes showed no mud stains. But Signorina Caputi's lawyer said she had been stripped in the car in which her attacker had driven her to the field.

Police sources also quoted an eyewitness who said he had given Signorina Caputi a lift at the time she said she had been assaulted. She showed no signs of injury.

Italian terror group frees kidnapped man

From Our Correspondent
Rome, April 3

Signor Piero Costa, a member of a wealthy shipwrecking family, who was kidnapped in Genoa in January, was released there early today.

His captors identified themselves as the Red Brigade, an extreme leftist terrorist organization. Members of Signor Costa's family paid a ransom of about 1,500m lire (£1m).

Signor Costa, who is 42 and a senior executive in the family's shipbuilding and business empire, was found by the police in a deserted villa outside Genoa after a telephone call from his captors. The police said that he was exhausted and filthy.

Chirac fear for the Fifth Republic if left wins poll

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, April 3

If the Union of the Left wins next year's parliamentary elections in France, it would be the end of the Fifth Republic, M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, said today.

Speaking on Radio Europe, he declared: "If the left wins there will be no more presidential elections. There will be institutional changes, changes of constitution. I have always thought that if we lost, M. Giscard d'Estaing would be the last President of the Fifth Republic."

And he asked: "Has a country which has switched to socialism ever returned to a normal democratic pattern?"

M. Chirac, leader and founder of the Gaullist Rassemblement pour la République, claimed that if the Union of the Left—M. François Mitterrand's Socialist Party and M. Georges Marchais's Communists—would quickly establish a Marxist-type society which would be irreversible.

"If the left won, President Giscard d'Estaing would not remain in power," he added.

Meanwhile, the Socialists, who made important gains in last month's municipal elections, remain confident of victory next year.

M. Mitterrand says in an interview in the latest issue of *Le Nouvel Observateur* that whether the election takes place in June, October or in March, the Socialist Party is ready.

Tremor revives fears in Friuli disaster area

From Our Correspondent
Rome, April 3

Another earthquake tremor shook the Friuli earthquake area today, sending the population in panic into the streets.

It spread fear and alarm as the earth had appeared to be settling down after the two disastrous earthquakes last year which killed about 1,000 people, devastated towns and villages and caused much of the population to leave the area.

Before today's tremor confidence was returning and people were flocking back to the area at the rate of about 500 a day. Rebuilding was beginning in earnest and the new houses of the prefabricated homes promised by the end of March had been completed.

Court of Justice of the European Communities

European law report
Week ended April 1, 1977

Italian entitled to Belgian colonial pension

Between M Walter Bozzone

Office de Sécurité Sociale d'Outre-mer (referred for preliminary decision by the Labour Court at Brussels)

Before the President, Judge H. Kuczius, and Judges A. Dunner, P. Pescatore, J. Mertens de Wilmars, M. Soenen, Lord Macenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, A. Toufflet, Advocate General F. Capotorti

Facts: The applicant in the main action is of Italian nationality and worked from July 12, 1952 to May 2, 1960, in what was then the Belgian Congo and is now the Republic of Zaire.

In April, 1960, he left Africa for health reasons and returned to Italy. His employer ended his contract and paid him severance allowance corresponding to three months' salary. As early as April 20, 1960, the applicant had applied to the Belgian invalidity scheme (Fonds des Invalides) for a disability pension under a colonial decree of August 7, 1952, concerning sickness and disability insurance of colonial employees. By a decision of August 18, 1960, that pension had been granted to him up to, and including, January 31, 1961. However, in a letter dated December 22, 1960, the Fonds des Invalides informed him that his pension would have to be discontinued after January 31, 1961, unless he complied with Article 2, paragraph 2, of the colonial decree of August 7, 1952, which laid down that pensioners shall reside in Belgium, in the (then)

Belgian Congo, in Ruanda-Urundi or in Ruanda-Urundi and Belgian Congo had entered a reciprocal agreement. That residence clause could only be temporarily waived if the health of the pensioner made this necessary.

There followed lengthy litigation, as the result of which the applicant received his pension until the end of 1973. On December 28, 1973, the Office de Sécurité Sociale d'Outre-mer (defendant in the main action) informed the applicant of its decision to stop payments as from January 1, 1974, since it could no longer consider that the applicant's continued residence in Italy was a temporary residence within the meaning of the Belgian legislation.

The Brussels Labour Court before which Mr Bozzone instituted proceedings referred to the European Court two questions which, in substance, turn on the compatibility with EEC Regulation 1408/71, paragraph 1 (residence), of article 2 (2) of the colonial decree of August 7, 1952, as amended by the decree of July 2, 1956, to the extent that these decrees make the service of pension dependent on permanent residence in Belgium, in the former Belgian Congo, in Ruanda-Urundi or in a state which has entered into reciprocal agreements with Belgium.

In order to interpret the meaning of "legislation" reference should be made to Article 1 (1) of Regulation 1408/71, which lays down that the term applies, in respect of all member states, to laws, regulations and statutory

measures of all kinds, now and to come, which deal with social security measures referred to in Article 4 (1) and (2).

The second comprehensive definition which covers all kinds of legislative enactments, regulations and administrative rules by member states. It covers all national rules applying to the matter.

That is the way in which decisions such as that which has been referred by the Belgian court shall be assessed as to whether they are part of national legislation within the meaning of Article 1 (1) and Article 2 (paragraph 1) of the EEC regulation.

It appears from the applicant's dossier that he had been admitted, in a first stage, to benefits under the colonial decree of August 7, 1952, and that he had been given aid and disbursement allowance, the insurance scheme had been confirmed and extended by a Belgian Act of Parliament of June 16, 1960, which extended the social insurance system created by the decree of August 7, 1952.

The Act (June 16, 1960) not only confirmed previously acquired rights but further provided for additional benefits (Article 5 bis) and lays down that payments shall be adapted to the cost-of-living prevailing in Belgium.

From all this, it follows that Regulation 1408/71 (Article 2, paragraph 1) should be interpreted to mean that if it applies to workers who are, or have been, subject to the social insurance system established by the decree of August 7, 1952, as confirmed and extended by the Belgian Act of June 16, 1960.

According to Article 10 (paragraph 1, first subparagraph) of Regulation 1408/71, a person who has acquired or lost a nationality, or one or several member states may not be reduced, modified, suspended, extinguished or continued on the basis of the person's residence in a member state other than that in which he resided the social insurance system.

Consequently, the EEC regulation contains no clause which would exonerate from this obligation in a case such as the one under review.

From this it follows that unless there exist express provisions to the contrary, the rule of Article 10 (paragraph 1, first subparagraph) of Regulation 1408/71 applies to persons who have been granted benefits under the law of a member state and relating to a wage-earning occupation exclusively served in that state.

Consequently, such persons are entitled to such benefits in that member state, even if those persons reside in a member state other than the one in which they were employed. It is the burden to serve benefits in respect of occupations in that territory.

TIME TO GET IMMERSED IN EUROPE'S TROUBLED WATERS?

Roy Jenkins has come to the end of his probationary period as President of the European Commission. So, from now on, he will be expected to get to grips with the job and accordingly, he will be judged on his performance.

In tomorrow's Europa, Mr. Jenkins is the subject of the monthly interview. He talks in detail of his attitudes and aspirations in his new role and his answers to the immediate problems at hand.

Also, tomorrow's issue will carry a report on a man who is a millionaire and an admitted communist. In a situation that would seem to evoke hypocrisy, Jean-Baptiste Doumeng, the French chairman of Interagra has managed to combine both ideals very successfully. You can read how, tomorrow.

In addition, Europa examines a new American project to involve workers in company ownership, without putting at risk their own capital. And, at the same time, management decisions will remain in the boardroom.

Published on the first Tuesday of every month, under the editorship of Jacqueline Grapin, Europa deals with economic, financial and industrial affairs and allied social questions, as they affect the total European business Community.

Europa is written by the most respected writers in Europe and is published simultaneously with the newspapers they represent: *The Times*, *Le Monde*, *La Stampa* and *Die Welt*. Articles are up-to-date and translated into the mother-tongue immediately before publication in each of the four countries.

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OVERSEAS

Rhodesia denies that church worker was shot by troops

From Michael Knipe Salisbury, April 3

The Rhodesian Government has denied allegations that a black Anglican church worker was shot by troops on a church mission and shot in the head.

Miss Patricia Chater, a white sister at St Francis mission, a church worker, was shot in the head and died on Friday, two men knocked the doors of the mission here Mr Basil Nyabada, a mission worker, and a church worker were sleeping.

She alleged that the men were black soldiers wearing camouflage uniforms and carrying guns. They led Mr Nyabada away and when they were about 50 yards from the mission stopped and shot him in the head and chest.

He was taken to the nearest African hospital where he died.

There have been several killings recently of missionary workers in the Rhodesian bush. The missionaries blamed Government troops.

Salisbury, April 3.—Fear of African guerrillas has forced

at least 24 Roman Catholic nuns and nine priests to leave Rhodesia, a church spokesman said today.

He forecast a further exodus of British, American, Irish and German Roman Catholic missionaries from the country.

They are caught in a trap and the nuns are also very brave," Father Mel Hill, the head of the St Joseph's Carmelite community in Salisbury added.

The Dublin-born priest, who is 63, said that the nuns had left their missions or convents and returned home either because their work has proved impossible or because their buildings were situated in the war zones.

Father Hill was the first Roman Catholic priest in Rhodesia to speak of the intimidation of missionaries by guerrillas.

Catholic sources said that church leaders were divided in their attitude towards the guerrillas. "One school of thought is that by turning a blind eye to guerrilla activities the missionaries will be left alone by the guerrillas and a black government, the future of the Church will not be affected," one churchman said.

"The other school of thought is that if the guerrillas use murder or terrorism to pursue their objectives, they should be denounced as such by the church. So far the Catholic Church goes along with the advocates of turning a blind eye."

South African proposals for press code revised

Johannesburg, April 3.—The Newspaper Press Union of South Africa yesterday published its revised press code.

The code was revised after discussions between Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, and the newspaper owners led to the withdrawal on March 25 of the controversial Newspaper Bill, which would have imposed statutory government control over the South African press.

The Bill was unanimously opposed by the NPU, which represents all Afrikaans newspaper companies and all but one English-language publisher, and was met with criticism from around the world.

The new press code, worded similarly to the Newspaper Bill, provides for the establishment

of a Press Council to adjudicate on public complaints about violations of the code.

However, unlike the council established by the Newspapers Bill, the new council will be unable to suspend publication of any newspaper contravening the press code.

The council will be chaired by a judge, who will be assisted by two assessors, one a journalist, the other drawn from the general public.

The press code also defines the professional standards to be adopted by South African newspapers. It states: "The freedom of the press is indivisible from, and subject to, the same legal and moral restraints as that of the individual and rests on the public's fundamental right to be informed."

Doubts in Indian Cabinet about economic policy

From Richard Wigg Delhi, April 3

The Janata Government is encountering difficulties in formulating its economic policy. An official statement yesterday "withdrew" remarks on industrial policy made only the day before by Mr Brijlal Verma, the Minister of Industry.

The policy of the Government on industrial development will be announced in due course, when it is ready, the statement said. It added that Mr Verma had expressed "preliminary views."

The minister had followed the election manifesto closely, but the left several aspects of India's industrial development policy in doubt.

Mr Verma also spoke of import substitution in order to build up the country's self-sufficiency and to create more jobs.

The Congress Party, still reeling from its rout at the general election, is facing a leadership crisis. A plan by Mr D. K. Barooah, the party's president, for a symbolic joint resignation of the Congress working committee backfired at the weekend.

The scheme was intended to lay the basis for a meeting of Congress delegates under a provisional president to determine what went wrong. But two party figures have accused Mr Barooah of resorting to "typical caucus" methods to save the leaders from being brought to account.

Sterilisation pay-out: Indians forcibly sterilised during the Gandhi Administration's campaign will receive 5,000 rupees (about £335) or more in compensation, according to a reported statement by Mr Raj Narain, the new family planning minister.

Crowd locked in to hear speech by Zaire official

Kinshasa, April 3.—About 20,000 people today attended a mass demonstration called to show the 'capital's solidarity with President Mobutu in his struggle against a rebel invasion from Angola.

Mr Sakombi Inongo, the governor of Kinshasa, delivered an hour-long speech. But after some 40 minutes, large sections of the crowd began to leave. Soldiers closed the gates to stop the exodus.

Mr Etiele M'ombouza, secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity, has arrived in Zaire to discuss the invasion with President Mobutu.—AP and Reuters

Djibouti groups agree on need for unity

Accra, April 3.—A five-day conference of rival factions in the French Territory of the Afars and Issas (Djibouti) has ended in Accra with agreement in principle on the creation of a "united patriotic front", but without achieving genuine unity.

The agreement in principle, rather than in fact, to form "a political organization embracing all the present political parties in the country" left room for continuing conflict between the groups which support the independence agreement reached with the French Government in Paris on March 19, and those which reject it.

Summit in Mozambique as Podgorny visit ends

'Front line' African leaders discuss Soviet offer of military aid

Quelimane, April 3.—Leaders of five "front line" states around Rhodesia met in this Mozambique town today to discuss military and financial support offered to black liberation movements in Southern Africa by President Podgorny of the Soviet Union and Dr Castro of Cuba during recent visits.

President Kaunda of Zambia flew at short notice from Lusaka together with Mr Joshua Nkomo, joint leader of the Patriotic Front, the Rhodesian guerrilla group recognized by the "front line" states.

The diplomats also said Mozambique soldiers were being trained in the use of advanced weapons in the Soviet Union.—AP and Agence France-Press

The event of a major attack on its territory from neighbouring white-ruled countries.

Diplomats in the Mozambique capital of Maputo said Russia was shipping military supplies to Mozambique to be used by the Mozambique Army, as well as by the Rhodesian black nationalist guerrillas using Mozambique as a base.

The diplomats also said Mozambique soldiers were being trained in the use of advanced weapons in the Soviet Union.—AP and Agence France-Press

Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique is regarded as aimed mainly at enhancing the position of the Soviet Union in southern Africa. He emphasized Soviet support for the liberation struggle in Rhodesia and South Africa. According to Tanzanian officials complete agreement was reached at his final talks with President Nyerere on the need to strengthen the Patriotic Front of Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe "as a military and political force in the Zimbabwe liberation struggle".

They also agreed on the need for all concerned to exercise restraint in order not to aggravate the dangerous situation in the Horn of Africa—regarded as a reference to the tension between Ethiopia and Somalia—and the dangers created by the impending independence of Djibouti.

Owen hint of bypassing Mr Smith

By Our Foreign Staff

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, hinted yesterday that Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, might be bypassed in a future settlement on the country.

Speaking on the television programme *Weekend World*, he said: "I do not think we should think that the only person who can deliver a solution in Rhodesia is Ian Smith. He is one aspect of white Rhodesian

opinion; he is not the sole aspect of white Rhodesian opinion."

On South Africa, Dr Owen said that, unless its Government changed the country's internal policies "there will be an inevitable clash, and it will be very ugly."

There was "not much evidence" that the South African Government realized it would have to change. Dr Owen leaves on a visit to Africa at the end of the week.

According to Lord Home, the former Prime Minister, China, not Russia, poses the long-term danger in Rhodesia.

"The Russians do stick out like a sore thumb in Africa," he says in a recorded television interview. "The Chinese are more successful. They dovetail into the population. I think of the Chinese as a long-term danger."

Cyprus Greeks accuse Turks of bad faith

From Our Correspondent Nicosia, April 3

The Greek Cypriot press reflecting official thinking, yesterday wrote off the Cyprus peace talks in Vienna as a complete failure following the Turkish Cypriot rejection of Greek Cypriot territorial proposals and the failure of the Turks to table their own proposals on this issue.

The Greek Cypriot officials claimed the Turkish refusal to specify their position violated the prior agreement between Archbishop Makarios, the Cypriot president, and Mr Rauf Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot leader to conduct meaningful negotiations.

Mr Denktash had angrily rejected the Greek Cypriot proposals last Friday, describing them as "a bad joke", while Mr Omir Suleiman Onan, the Turkish Cypriot representative at Vienna, declared he was not there "to make territorial concessions."

They oppose implementation of the rights demanded by the Greeks, as this could result in the return of all the Greek Cypriot refugees to their former homes in the Turkish Cypriot region.

The Cyprus Government spokesman argued that if the Greek Cypriot proposals were accepted, 120,000 refugees would be able to return to their homes, mainly in the east coast tourist centre of Famagusta and the west coast citrus growing region of Morphou, which would be given up by the Turks.

The remaining 30,000 refugees would have the right to return to northern Cyprus if they wished. Even if all of them chose to do so, the Turkish Cypriots would still enjoy a majority of two to one in their own region, the spokesman said.

In brief

Mr Dayan not to quit party

Tel Aviv, April 3.—Mr Moshe Dayan, the former Israeli Defence Minister, has withdrawn a threat to quit the ruling Labour Party after talks with Mr Rabin.

He had threatened to leave unless there was a promise to hold new elections before implementing any agreements reached with the Arabs on an Israeli pull-out from the parts of the occupied West Bank.

No longer a Russian
Moscow, April 3.—Mrs Natalya Solzhenitsyn, who now lives in the United States with her exiled novelist husband, has been stripped of her Soviet citizenship for making statements prejudicial to the Soviet Union.

Women seize jail
Karachi, April 3.—About 10,000 Pakistani women took over a police station in the city of Hyderabad yesterday, demanding the release of opposition politicians detained during a recent anti-Government campaign.

Test cricketer dies
Melbourne, April 3.—Mr Jack Ryder, the former Australian cricket captain who scored centuries against both England and South Africa, has died here, aged 87.

Tornado kills 600
Dacca, April 3.—More than 600 people have died, with 1,500 injured as a result of the tornado which struck two widely-separated areas of Bangladesh on Friday.

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Mr Karamanlis opens party debate on his succession

From Our Correspondent Athens, April 3

Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, has urged his New Democracy party to reorganize itself so that it will be able to survive his departure from office.

The problem of Mr Karamanlis's succession was broached at a party congress at Halkidiki, northern Greece.

Mr Karamanlis is known to aspire to the office of President of the Republic after he has solved some of the more crucial problems confronting the nation. The question who will succeed him is seriously preoccupying the public, for many Greeks believe that what holds the New Democracy Party together is the personality of its leader.

The Prime Minister told the party congress that he deplored the tendency of political parties to centre round the personality

of their leader. Mr Karamanlis said: "The party must not identify its destiny with that of its leader. Not just because one person cannot encompass the life span of a party but because the party should never suffer from the mistakes or even the misfortunes of its leader."

Three of Mr Karamanlis's lieutenants spoke today on policy issues. Mr Panagiotis Papaligouras, the Minister of Planning, on economic and social policy; Mr George Rallis, the Minister to the Prime Minister's office, on internal affairs; and Mr Evangelos Averoff Tossiazis, the Defence Minister, on foreign affairs and defence.

The three are regarded as the likeliest contenders for the party leadership. If Mr Karamanlis moves up to the presidency, a fourth contender is Mr Constantine Papaconstantinou, the president of Parliament, who delivered the inaugural address at the congress.

OVERSEAS

Suspicion of US roused in Jordan as King tries to minimize dangers of peace efforts failing

From Robert Fisk, London, April 3
King Hussein of Jordan is not a man who normally espouses the conspiracy theory of history. The Palestinians, the Syrians, the Egyptians, and especially the Libyans, have never been so close to suggesting that international plot is always involving the Americans and Israelis. But last week King Hussein joined their ranks.

"International conspiracies are aimed at exposing our cause to danger and liquidation," he said in a speech to the Gulf states at a summit in Amman. "We are in the forefront of defending this cause and consequently we are the targets of conspiracies and treachery. It is the duty of our people to be on the alert."

Jordanian government officials leave little to doubt about the nature of the supposed plot. Confused by President Carter's references last month to a "landmark" for Palestinian refugees and the possibility of extra-territorial Israeli defence lines, some ministers suspect the United States was set up, not on the West Bank of the Jordan river as everyone supposed, but in Jordan itself.

In an effort to counteract Jordanian suspicions, the American embassy has sent a pamphlet containing everything Mr. Carter has said on

the Middle East since he took office to leading politicians and businessmen here.

Another cause of Arab suspicion has been the recent American press reports that King Hussein received Central Intelligence Agency funds for more than 20 years. Civil servants in Amman are claiming that these stories were deliberately put about by Americans who wished to damage the King's chances of maintaining exclusive authority in Jordan if peace negotiations get under way again at Geneva.

The theory goes that the King's power would be sufficiently weakened for him to be forced to accept a settlement in which Palestinians and Jordanians would rule a single state on the east bank of the Jordan.

More than 60 per cent of the population on the east bank are Palestinian by birth, about 10 per cent of the original 1948 exodus. Four of the King's 19 ministers are Palestinians and the late Queen Alia was of Palestinian blood, her family coming from Nabulus.

Under the recent national service laws, every man over the age of 18 must join the Army and this includes the Palestinian refugees. Jordan's practice of giving full Jordanian passports to the entire population of the only nation to bestow citizenship in this way on the Palestinians makes conflicting national identity more obscure.

Today, however, the Jordanians are allowing the Palestinians to take the initiative. While they officially regard the creation of a state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem as an essential condition for peace in the Middle East, the Jordanians are in no hurry to offer the Palestinians the chance of joining their delegation to Geneva.

The reason is that they do not want to take the blame for any failure caused by differences with the Palestinians. Conversely, some Palestinian businessmen in Amman believe that a joint delegation with Jordan might prevent the Palestinians from being blamed for any breakdown in the negotiations.

King Hussein is said to be placing no high hopes on a settlement of this issue. He has repeatedly warned Jordanians of the dangers of over-optimism. He reminds diplomats that Jordan still abides by the Rabat agreement, which made the Palestine Liberation Organization the sole representative of the Palestinians. And there are no signs that the King wants to regain personal control over his former West Bank territories should the Israelis withdraw.

There are those who believe that "moderate" Arab states like Egypt and Syria will collapse if their peace initiatives are seen to fail within the next 18 months. King Hussein is making sure that Jordan cannot go the same way.

West and East accused of lacking will to stabilize developing countries' exports

Third World sees Unctad as failure

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, April 3

A "complete failure" is how the developing countries' Group of 77 describes the results of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad), which has been meeting for a month in an attempt to set up a common fund to stabilize commodity prices. The conference ended early today.

Their closing statement said that they had expected at least a firm decision on establishing a fund. They blamed the lack of political will on the part of the two other groups, representing the Western industrialized nations and the communist countries.

In sharp contrast to this bleak assessment was the Western group's view that "serious negotiations" were under way and that the conference "made significant progress, broadening the areas of consensus concerning some element of a common fund".

It proved impossible in the final 48 hours of discussions to agree on even the most anodyne common wording. But no delegation objected publicly to the summing-up by Mr. Herbert Walker, of Jamaica, the chairman of the conference.

It appeared to him that there was a measure of agreement on establishing a fund to finance the creation of buffer stocks for the 18 commodities, including cocoa, coffee, sugar, tin and rubber within a limited programme worked out by the conference.

The United States delegation also affirmed that significant progress had been achieved but could not agree to a fund without a far clearer appreciation of what was involved. While the Carter Administration had not yet set its policies, "we have advanced our own thinking at this conference", it said.

The expression of Third World disillusionment is partly genuine, as the fund has come to be regarded as a vital com-

ponent of a new international economic order, partly tactical, to keep the attention of Western governments focused on the issue while Washington settles its priorities.

Mr. Walker and Mr. Ali Akbar, the spokesman for the Group of 77, have both privately expressed confidence that the concept of a fund to which a majority of countries is fully committed can be realized.

The question is in what form, and how it is to be related to the European Community's "Staber" scheme for stabilizing the export earnings, mainly from raw materials, of Asian, African and Caribbean countries with which the EEC has special links.

The next public consideration of the common fund is expected to be at the London summit early next month and later at the North-South dialogue in Paris. By then United States intentions may be clearer.

Lithuania: Miss Niole Sadunaite

By David Watts

By the time she had completed high school in 1955 Miss Niole Sadunaite was already celebrated in her home town of Anyksciai in Lithuania because she insisted on going to Mass every Sunday. Religious persecution was an everyday occurrence for her, as was discrimination at school because of her belief.

Lithuania was an independent state until 1939 when the German-Soviet non-aggression pact led to its annexation by the Soviet Union. The country was, and is, predominantly Roman Catholic and religious activities have always been strong.

During the Second World War these resentments found expression through the nationalist movement and contributed thereafter culminating in the dramatic self-immolation of Mr. Romas Kalena, a Lithuanian student, in 1972. His death was immediately followed by student riots and demonstrations.

In the same year the first issue of a satirical journal, *A Chronicle of the Lithuanian Catholic Church*, appeared and it was over the publication of this periodical that Miss Sadunaite fell foul of the authorities.

The journal, consisting of reports of prosecutions and harassment of Catholic clergy and believers, and human rights violations, has survived in spite of the detention of several people associated with it.

Prisoners of conscience



Miss Sadunaite was arrested in her flat in August, 1974, when a police search party found a copy of the *Chronicle* in her typewriter. When she refused to reveal anything to her interrogators, they threatened to have her put in a psychiatric hospital. She spent eight and a half months in detention before being tried.

In June, 1975, she was brought before the Lithuanian Supreme Court in Vilnius. The trial was closed and the five witnesses were ordered to leave the court as soon as they had given evidence.

Miss Sadunaite was sentenced to three years' imprisonment in a strict regime labour colony and three years' internal exile. She was sent to serve her sentence in the Mordovia colony for "especially dangerous" female offenders. The last report on her conviction said that she had fallen ill in the autumn of 1975 and had been sent to the camp hospital in February, 1976.

Fighting flares up in south Lebanon

Beirut, April 3.—Fighting flared overnight in south Lebanon. Travellers said today that artillery and machine-gun duels caused scores of casualties round the town of Bint Jubail, only a few miles from the Israeli frontier.

Bint Jubail is a stronghold of Lebanese leftists and Palestinians, who in recent months have been forced to give ground in the area to Lebanese rightists. Dr. Saïm al-Hoss, the Lebanese Prime Minister, said on television last night that the Government was determined to press ahead with plans to restore calm to the south, where fighting has continued since the ceasefire in November that ended the civil war in most of the country.

The Government would start implementing what he called "the Lebanese interpretation" of the 1969 Cairo agreement governing Palestinian activities in Lebanon. Dr. al-Hoss said this "interpretation" was signed recently by President Sarkis but Palestinians argued that it was too harsh and refused to sign it.

They said it negated effectively the Cairo agreement, which allowed limited Palestinian military activity in certain areas of south Lebanon bordering Israel.

In the south it was reported yesterday that rightist militiamen, said to be supported by Israeli artillery, had pushed ahead with a major offensive aimed at capturing the entire region along the frontier with Israel.

Travellers arriving in Sidon from the frontier area said fierce fighting was raging for Ayayoun, the southernmost in a string of villages along the frontier with Israel which the rightists claim to have taken during the week.

The travellers reported ferocious ground fighting on the outskirts of Ayayoun.

Sources in the south, as well as in Beirut, reported that rightists and forces of Lebanon's leftist-Palestinian alliance were also locked in a battle for Taybeh, 10 miles north of Ayayoun.

Palestinian sources in Beirut reported heavy artillery duels across the Litani river, between leftist-Palestinian positions, near the ancient Beaufort crusader castle, and the towns of Marjayoun and Kleya.

The Litani is believed widely to form the undefined red line beyond which Israel has said it would not tolerate any non-Lebanese Arab forces.—Reuters.

Surprise delay in Kenya of ruling party's elections

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, April 3

In a surprise announcement, the ruling Kenya African National Union has postponed indefinitely the national party elections which were due to take place today.

Party headquarters said the postponement was "due to unavoidable circumstances beyond our control". Delegates who had arrived in Nairobi from all parts of Kenya were told to return home.

Lack of information about the reasons for the postponement aroused speculation about the health of President Kenyatta, who is 85 and was to preside at the meeting.

It would have been the first

Kanu national election for 10 years. Local branch elections had been completed and branch delegates were to have chosen their national officials today.

Mr. Oginga Odinga, former Vice-President of Kenya, was barred from standing for election as party vice-president, together with other former members of his short-lived opposition party, the Kenya People's Union, which was dissolved in 1969 when Mr. Odinga was detained for two years for alleged subversion.

Mr. Odinga challenged the validity of this ruling and said he had returned to Kanu on his release from detention in 1971.

Six Addis Ababa murderers shot in public

Addis Ababa, April 3.—Ethiopia's ruling military council has publicly executed by firing squad six men found guilty of the "inhuman murder of 24 persons".

Thousands of cheering spectators crowded on to the hills on the outskirts of Addis Ababa to see the execution yesterday, the first held in public since the military rulers deposed the late Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974.

Among the six executed was Girma Kebede, chairman of one of the urban dwellers' associations known as "Kebekes". He and his five followers were arrested a week ago.—AP.

Spanish reporter detained by Prague police

Prague, April 3.—A Spanish journalist said today that he was detained for 10 and a half hours by Czechoslovak police for trying to interview a prominent dissident.

Señor Vicente Pomero, of the Spanish office of the trade union daily *Pueblo*, said he was arrested yesterday at the front door of Mr. Zdenek Mlynar, a former Communist Party secretary, who is under constant police guard. He was taken to a police station near by.

Señor Pomero was leaving Czechoslovakia tonight as arranged earlier.—Reuters.

Vietnam builds airfield on disputed island

From Our Correspondent, Hongkong, April 3

The Vietnam Government has built an airfield on one of the western Spratly Islands which are claimed by China as part of its "sacred soil".

According to intelligence sources in Hongkong, the military garrison on the island—identified on Vietnamese and international maps as Pagad—has been doubled to more than an estimated 300 men since the collapse of the former South Vietnam Government.

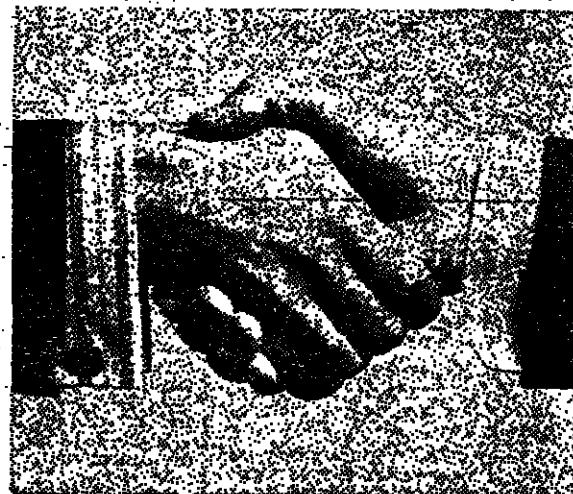
So far there has been no official reaction from Peking to this latest defiance of Chinese claims.

China has established an airfield and military garrison on the Paracel Island group, farther north in the South China Sea, which Chinese forces occupied in the closing stages of the war and which the new Vietnamese Government, like the old anti-communist one, insists is Vietnamese territory.

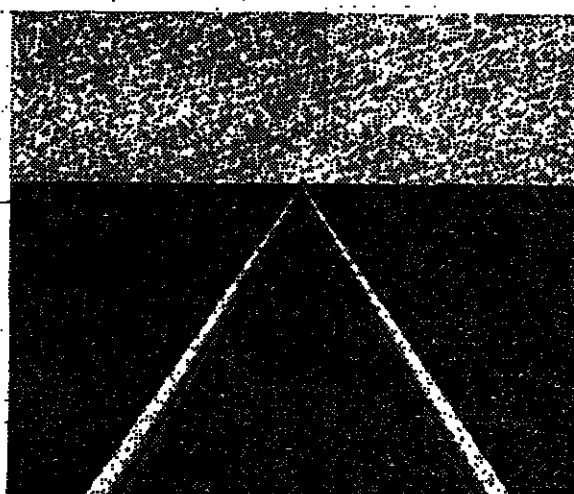
The Soviet Union has publicly endorsed the Vietnamese claims to both the Paracels and the Spratlys.

The Philippines Government has also built an airfield on one of eastern Spratly Islands which it claims as Philippines territory and which are now the centre of offshore oil exploration.

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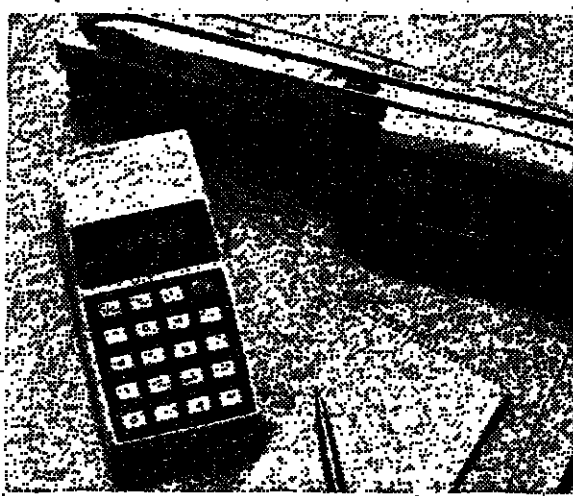
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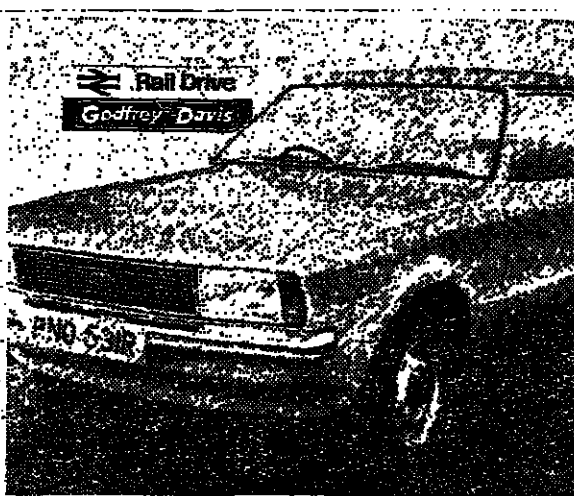
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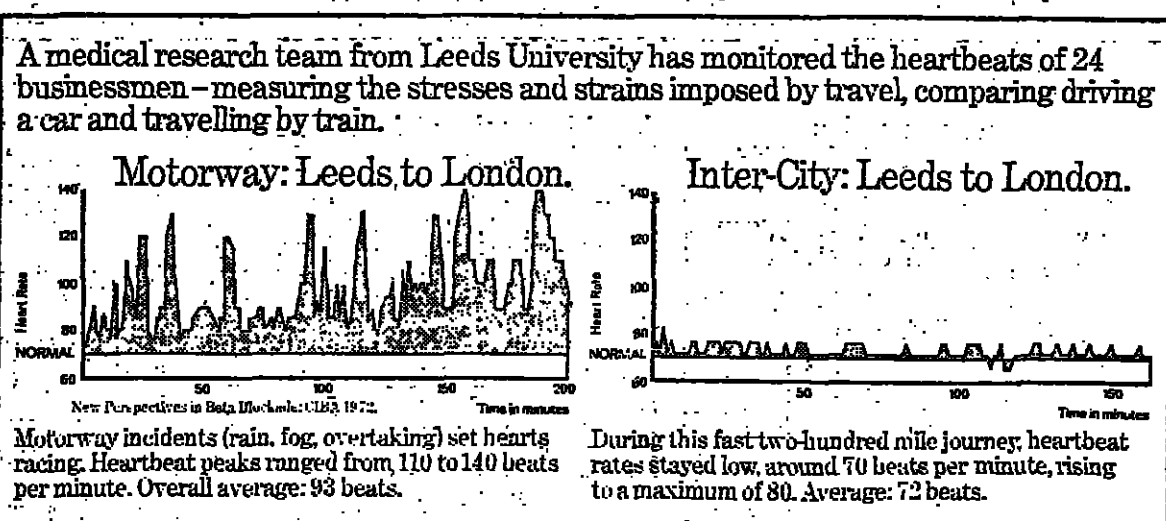
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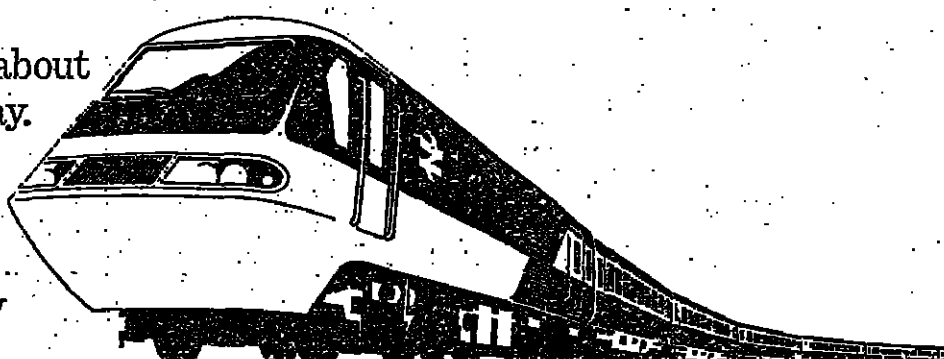


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SPORT

Motor racing



Hunt and Lauda talking in the pits before yesterday's race.

Lauda takes pole position on down town course

Long Beach, California, April 3.—Niki Lauda, going all-out in the final timed lap on Saturday, took the pole position from Mario Andretti for tomorrow's United States Grand Prix West. Lauda, who was sixth after Friday's qualifying race, continually worked his Ferrari into second place, and finally knocked another three-tenths of a second off his previous best, for a speed of 89.085 miles an hour. The Austrian's speed was a course record. Andretti, who had a speed of 88.526 mph for the second place in a Lotus, lost out because of the limited opportunities for passing on the tight, two-mile course through downtown Long Beach. The front places are the most coveted. In the inaugural race the front starters finished first and second.

Jody Scheckter, fastest after Friday's first of two qualifying races, ended up third with 88.05 mph in a Wolf. Scheckter leads the points race against the pace of American driver, Clay Regazzoni, the 1975 world champion, moved into a tie for second place after his victory last month in South Africa.

Andretti said he had only one problem. Lauda. Andretti is now in the best position ever to make an American driver win one of his country's two grands prix races. He added that he just ran out of time.

A race is expected to the first corner, and the Ferrari is expected

to have the acceleration needed to beat Andretti. But Andretti said he did not think it would be sheer acceleration, more a matter of getting a good run, not a lot of wheel spin.

Andretti said the course seemed to favour the 12-cylinder engines like the Ferrari, Brabham and Ligier. He and Scheckter were the only eight-cylinder drivers in the first six. Near the end of qualifying, Andretti's team colleague, Emerson Fittipaldi, twice charged a front suspension failure that caused an inspection of both team cars. The defending champion, Clay Regazzoni of Switzerland, damaged his car, and qualified only in 13th place.

The world champion, James Hunt, of Britain, never got going, was stopped on the course once, and earned eighth position. Emerson Fittipaldi of Brazil, twice champion, was seventh, leaving McLaren two years ago. A loud cheer went up when Fittipaldi passed Hunt, who replaced him at the pole position last year.

STARTING POSITIONS (qualifying times in minutes and seconds): 1. N. Lauda, 1:20.8; 2. M. Andretti, 1:21.0; 3. J. Scheckter, 1:21.1; 4. C. Regazzoni, 1:21.2; 5. E. Fittipaldi, 1:21.3; 6. J. Hunt, 1:21.4; 7. J. Villeneuve, 1:21.5; 8. A. Jones, 1:21.6; 9. D. Surtees, 1:21.7; 10. M. Surer, 1:21.8; 11. B. Stiller, 1:21.9; 12. M. Donohue, 1:22.0; 13. C. B. Jones, 1:22.1; 14. J. Watson, 1:22.2; 15. A. Harewood, 1:22.3; 16. M. Smith, 1:22.4; 17. J. Schlesinger, 1:22.5; 18. J. Jones, 1:22.6; 19. J. Jones, 1:22.7; 20. J. Jones, 1:22.8; 21. J. Jones, 1:22.9; 22. J. Jones, 1:23.0; 23. J. Jones, 1:23.1; 24. J. Jones, 1:23.2; 25. J. Jones, 1:23.3; 26. J. Jones, 1:23.4; 27. J. Jones, 1:23.5; 28. J. Jones, 1:23.6; 29. J. Jones, 1:23.7; 30. J. Jones, 1:23.8; 31. J. Jones, 1:23.9; 32. J. Jones, 1:24.0; 33. J. Jones, 1:24.1; 34. J. Jones, 1:24.2; 35. J. Jones, 1:24.3; 36. J. Jones, 1:24.4; 37. J. Jones, 1:24.5; 38. J. Jones, 1:24.6; 39. J. Jones, 1:24.7; 40. J. Jones, 1:24.8; 41. J. Jones, 1:24.9; 42. 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The need to reassert Islamic values to counteract the secular, materialistic influence of the West is the theme of the First World Conference on Muslim Education being held in Mecca. This Special Report looks at education in eight countries with a large Muslim population—Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iran, Algeria, Pakistan, Turkey, Indonesia and the Soviet Union—and provides profiles of four universities in Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.

In the opening article Michael Binyon considers the dangers to Islamic society posed by the influence of western science and technology

EDUCATION AND ISLAM

Tradition faces the wealth test

It is appropriate that the first world conference on Muslim education should be held in Mecca. Not only is it the religious setting, but it is also the intellectual centre of the Islamic world. The need to learn foreign languages, mainly English, and study foreign textbooks to control the technology of the West has brought with it access to and interest in the superficial products of western culture—American television programmes, films of sex and violence, western fads and fashions.

Saudi Arabia has grasped the need for an educated technological society. It has tried to wear protective gloves, to stop its traditional values being eroded by a policy of restriction and gradual change. Now it believes the time has come to reexamine these traditional values.

Change is most dramatic in Saudi Arabia because the country had farther to go than others, and sudden wealth made change more possible. But similar statistics can be found in all Gulf states, in Iran and in oil-rich states such as Libya and Nigeria.

So can similar challenges. The Islamic world was once the intellectual centre of the universe. The enormous oil wealth which many Muslim countries have suddenly acquired has prompted a widespread belief that the golden age of learning can return.

But the question at Mecca is: can this be achieved without the profoundly anti-Islamic movement that accompanied Atatürk's revolution in thought and learning in Turkey after the First

أَقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ
الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ
عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

The Arabic inscription above comes from the Koran, chapter 96, vv 3-5. It means: "Read: for your Lord is the Most Generous One, who taught by the pen, taught Man what he did not know."

World War? Great sums have been spent on education in almost every Muslim country. But statistics are sketchy and sometimes out of date. Systems vary according to the country's former colonial status. Political and religious influences have confused debate over the curriculum and coeducation, and religious education, once the foundation of the system, now plays only a small role in most countries.

The Arab countries have

made great efforts to standardize their diverse patterns of education, so far with limited success. A rights to freedom, security and dignity of life. Signed in 1964 said the aim of education should be "the creation of generations of Arabs, believing in God, loyal to the Arab homeland, confident in themselves and in their nation, aware of their responsibility to their nation and humanity... armed with science and morals so as to share in the advancement of Arab life."

In a burst of zeal and spending Dr Taha Hussein, the writer, who was Education Minister, built hundreds of schools, reformed the syllabus, abolished fees and laid the foundations that enabled Egypt to remain in the forefront of Arab learning.

In the Levant education also got off to an early start. Until the civil war Lebanon was well served by privately run and foreign schools and colleges, though

the government system remained poor. Attempts were made during the French mandate in Syria to impose the French system; in reaction Syria, on gaining independence, devoted considerable energy to setting up an Arab curriculum. Paradoxically Syria's political instability accelerated progress as new governments vied with their predecessors to improve the system.

Jordan made free primary education compulsory 20

years ago. Ironically the presence of so many Palestinian refugees in camps has aided the state system: comprehensive schools set up by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency have led to a vast output of reasonably well-educated manpower.

These countries had a head start, and have been able to coordinate their efforts. As long ago as 1957 Egypt, Jordan and Syria signed a cultural pact standardizing the divisions of primary, intermediate and secondary education. Higher education was built on these foundations. The universities have a fairly high standard and send teachers to The Gulf, Libya, Saudi Arabia and other countries less advanced in education.

Palestinians, who have as high a rate of university students to their population as any country in Western Europe, are the backbone of school systems all over the Arabian peninsula, and will be for years until the new teacher training colleges in these countries are well established.

All Arab countries are challenged by the need for higher, particularly technical, education. In the race to build colleges and train professors there is a danger that the educational pyramid will rest on too frail a base.

The struggle against illiteracy is still not won. An Arab League report in 1965 showed that the rate of illiteracy as a whole is not much below 65 per cent. The diversion of resources to expensive higher education, high birth rates and over-optimistic targets suggest that the percentage has not fallen much in 12 years.

There is also an acute shortage of textbooks, both in primary and secondary education. This has been compounded by the emphasis on Arab culture in learning, which has hit the Maghreb

countries hardest. Replacing all the French textbooks in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia is a long and expensive business, especially in science.

But the ever-increasing demand for qualifications has forced all countries to press ahead with the building of colleges and technical training facilities, concurrent with the establishment of primary schools. This is true not only of the Arab countries, but of Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and Nigeria.

Most Muslim countries cannot yet provide all the specialist science that they require, particularly in the postgraduate area, and large numbers of students are sent overseas. Iraq and Iran have some of the largest groups of foreign students in Britain. Iran has by far the largest group of foreign students, about 20,000, in the United States.

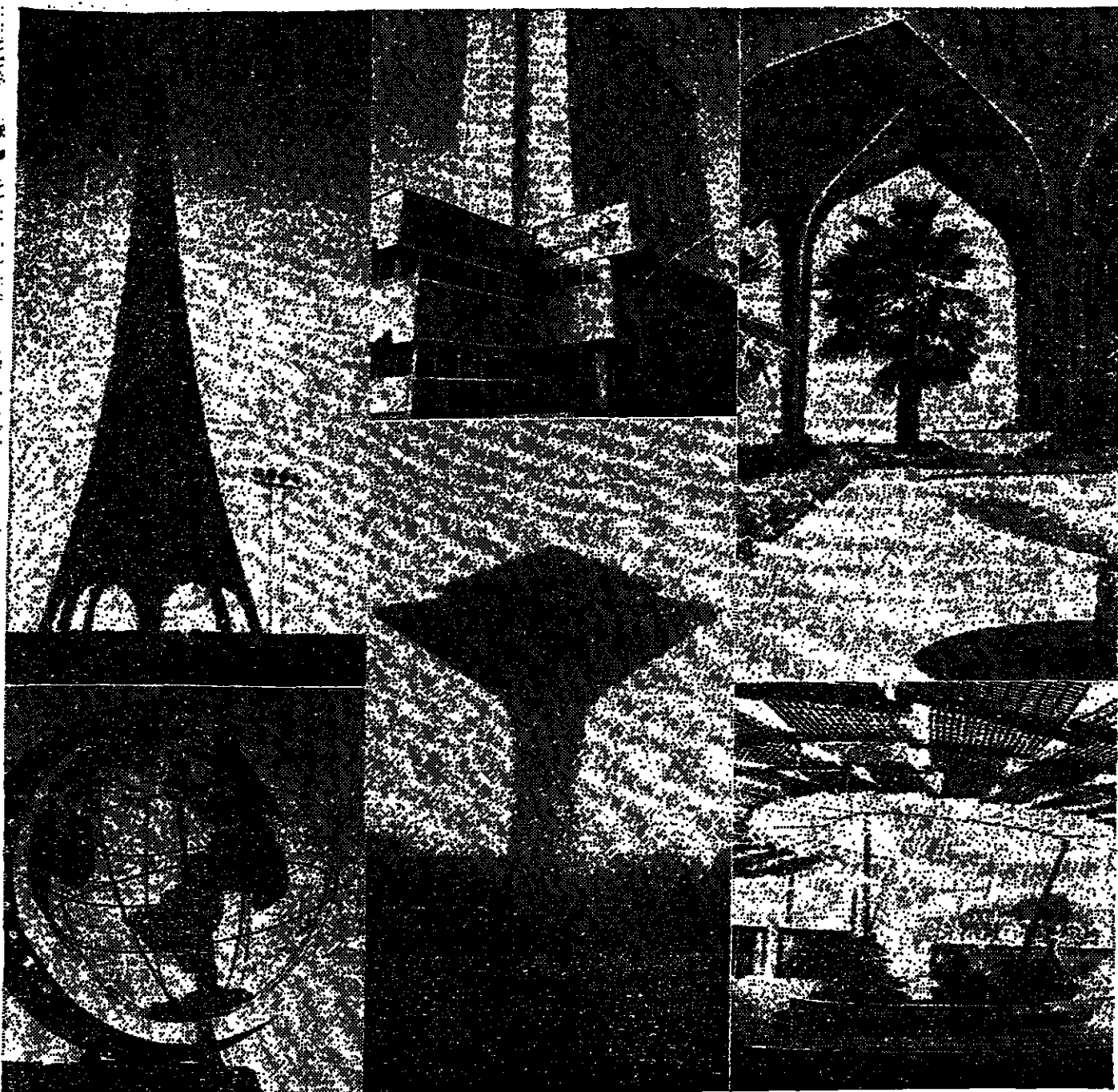
Indeed Iran's educational involvement with the United States is almost as close as its military involvement, and has caused some stir in American academic circles with talk of "academic hush" by universities and a scramble for contracts and agreements.

Iran is a good example of a country that is using every possible western resource in order to produce quickly a sufficiently large educated cadre to allow intellectual as well as political independence.

In doing so it exposes its students to western political ideas which are not always acceptable to the regime. The question the Mecca conference will have to face is whether total intellectual exposure to the West may also be unacceptable to Islam.

Western contact with Islamic learning before the renaissance invigorated Christendom. Does the West now have a role to play in an Islamic renaissance?

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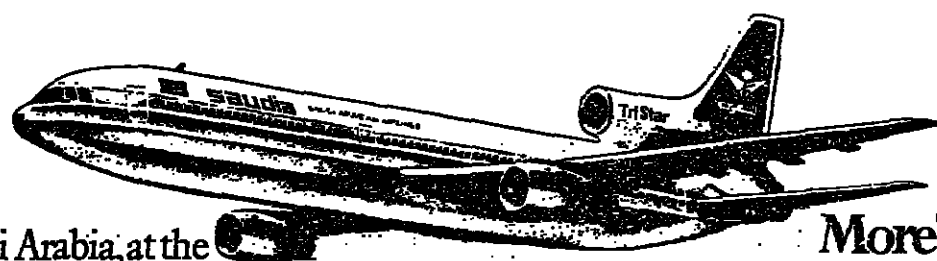


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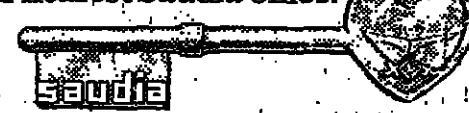
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Aircraft	L1011	L1011	L1011	L1011	B707	L1011	L1011	L1011	L1011
London	d	2000	1105	1105	1310	1105	1400	1310	1105
Jeddah	a	0410	2045	2045	2045	1915	2345	1915	1915
Riyadh	a	SV824 0630	2230	2230	2230	2230	2230	SV8035	2230
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Saudi Arabia

Government in deadly earnest over its compelling investment

by Tudor David

To the Saudis education serves two purposes. The first is religious; Islam places great emphasis on the significance, both intellectual and moral, of learning. The second is economic; Saudi Arabia needs educated manpower and needs it fast.

Victorian, and especially Anglican, England had much the same priorities. But there is an all-important difference. Victorian governments were at best indifferent and often hostile to the development of a coherent national educational system; in Saudi Arabia the government is in deadly earnest. Education is seen as a compelling investment.

By the end of this decade about a quarter of public expenditure will be on education and 95 per cent of the child population between the ages of six and 11—the elementary stage—will be in school.

What took most western countries 30 years will be crammed into five. The oil which turns into Arab gold will not last for ever—perhaps not much beyond the year 2000. By that time Saudi Arabia has set itself the goal of being the equal of the industrial countries of the West.

Or rather, the goal is not to be equal but better, morally better, and the moral avail of Islam will be the means of forging this.

Islam must pervade the entire educational system, through prayers and the Muslim equivalent of our religious education, through fasting in the month of Ramadan, through strict adherence to the Saudi interpretation of the *sharia* or Islamic law.

The ubiquitous *sis* of the West, the pillars of the Saudi establishment will readily list—free mixing of the sexes, alcohol, drugs, muggings and all the other consequences of permissiveness—must never penetrate Saudi Arabia, even on holiday. The magnificent resort which is being planned in Abha high in the Saudi mountains in the west will be for uniquely Muslim pleasures. No bars, discotheques or hamburgers will pollute its atmosphere.

No one supposes that this will be easy. Hence the call for a *jihad*, a holy war, meant to imply a total and sustained commitment to the particular view of Islamic precepts in education held by the Saudis.

The trouble is that a large number of the Muslims who have assembled in Mecca for the First World Conference on Muslim Education will simply not find it possible to go all the way with the Saudis.

That is especially true of the Egyptians, who find it difficult to resist claiming that the intellectual focus of Islam is in Cairo. Egyptian influence on education is manifest in all the Arab countries of the Middle East, and perhaps most of

all in Saudi Arabia, with agreement on, however, is how complete the separate education of boys and girls should be. It is a measure of the strict Saudi reading of the Koran that at the Abdul Aziz University, where the conference is taking place, there is only one way in which women students can attend classes—given by male teachers—on closed circuit television.

Of the 4,000 students at Abdul Aziz (mostly located in Jiddah), about a thousand are women. Yet rather to the surprise of the Saudi university administrators, the women, despite their heavy dependence on audio-visual aids, do consistently better than men in examinations.

But when the examinations have been passed what can these women do? The Koran, according to the Saudi theory, forbids any mixing of the sexes after puberty except within the family circle. That means that women can work only with women; they must become mainly nurses or teachers.

The chief inspector for girls' education in Saudi Arabia is a man; he must be so in order to communicate with the senior civil servants and politicians who are all men. He is a much-respected former judge, Shaikh Nasser bin Hamed al-Rashid, and he is said never to have been into a single girls' school, except when empty.

That is in no way to suggest that the Saudis are in-

different to the education of girls. Far from it. They could fairly claim that the fact that of nearly a million children in the country some 400,000 are girls is a great achievement. The Koran is quite clear about the importance of girls' education and the Saudi Government will not stand for any resistance to its extension. Less than a decade ago troops were dispatched to one recalcitrant village where the elders were unwilling to allow girls to go to school in order to ensure that the Ministry of Education's instructions were applied.

Nor could anyone deny the intellectual honesty and moral determination of the men at the top. The recently appointed Minister of Education, Dr Abdul Aziz al-Khawater, is a perceptive former Vice-Chancellor of Riyadh University and a graduate of London University School of Oriental and African Studies. Among his deputies, men like the American-educated Prince Khalid bin Fahd and the Swiss-educated Prince Muhammad al-Faisal would be valued and energetic additions to any administration. Yet like the rightly devout Minister for Higher Education, Mr Hassan al-Shaikh, they remain zealously attached to the Saudi interpretation of the Koran.

However, they must surely wonder where the inflexibility over the role of women will lead. There are, for example, six Saudi women students studying in

Britain for degrees in business administration. How in a number of developing countries tries but in Saudi Arabia, where the population is thinly scattered, it is not only a serious block on economic progress but a socially enfeebling. At all levels of society the non-Saudi component is growing rapidly.

One of the most important tasks the Saudi schools face is somehow to create a generation with a new attitude to labour. To some extent this is a matter of *mens sana in corpore sano*.

Although Riyadh has more television sets per household than any other city in the world, large numbers of Saudis figure seriously undernourished. The answer to malnutrition provided by Dr Muhammad Hayati, the Cairo-trained director-general of the School Health Service, was a daily school meal in the form of a specially manufactured biscuit made of wheat flour and lentils, together with a ration of cheese and some dates. That provides about two thirds of the nutritional content of the recommended school meal in Britain.

The author is editor, Education.

A physical education class pose in front of a portrait of King Abdul-Aziz ibn Saud, founder of modern Saudi Arabia.

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Algeria

Two reforms which match spirit of national charter

by Paul Balta

The 1976-77 school year in Algeria was marked by two developments: the unification of the various primary and secondary schools and the introduction of the nine-year *ecole fondamentale*, an innovation in the educational system which is better suited to Algeria's needs and policies. These two developments are in keeping with the national charter, the document setting down ideological, political, economic and cultural guidelines which was adopted by the people in a referendum on June 27, 1976, having been widely debated.

The unification of the educational system has been approached from two angles. The private schools, most of which were run by the Roman Catholic Church, have been nationalized; the plans for this measure have been known for several years. These schools worked to the state curricula and provided education of a standard above the national average.

As they were fee-paying schools, the 40,000 children attending them were largely from the better-off social categories: the children of

senior civil servants, senior executives of nationalized companies, members of the professions, traders and small businessmen. The fact that children whose parents were able to afford to pay for their schooling received a better education was criticized by a fraction of the population who found this situation inconsistent with the dictates of socialist justice.

Nationalization of these schools, where the teaching staff were mainly of foreign origin, even if they opted for Algerian nationality at the time of independence, has made it possible to integrate the 40,000 children attending schools run by the Ministry for Religious Affairs and Islamic Teachings into the normal educational system. In many subjects, the curricula were of modern design, but too much of the teaching was carried out by staff of mediocre quality and retrograde mentality recruited in the Middle East (Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria).

The unification of the educational system was welcomed by the left and by modernists, but was bitterly resented by the traditionalists and conservatives, who did however receive compensation in the form of introduction of religious

education in all schools and a change in the weekly rest day, from Sunday to Friday. The reform has had another consequence: many of the good teachers working in private schools have decided to retire or return to France, while those recruited in the Middle East have stayed on pending their replacement by Algerians.

The *ecole fondamentale* meets one of the aims of the national charter as well as requirements expressed in the second four-year plan (1974-77). It is stated in the charter that "the cultural revolution in the educational field will be oriented more towards the mastery of science and technology than towards vague knowledge offering no more than social prestige". It also states the authorities' intention to adapt the content of teaching, which was largely based on the French model, to the cultural situation in Algeria and to the social and economic objectives.

The *ecole fondamentale* will gradually supersede the present system, which is divided between the elementary and middle cycles and designed in a way which allows only 20 per cent of the pupils to progress from the former to the latter. The new structure comprises three organically integrated cycles of three years each, so that children will stay an extra two years at school, which will keep them off the streets.

During the "basic cycle", which is completely Arabized, active methods are applied to provide a grounding in the fundamentals (reading, writing and arithmetic) and initiation into other subjects. The "awakening cycle" builds on the basic attainments, introduces a foreign language and broadens general knowledge.

The "terminal cycle" or "orientation cycle" concentrates on the scientific disciplines, social sciences and polytechnic education, aiming to provide the student with an understanding of the processes of agricultural and industrial production and management, and an insight into the relationship between works and political-administrative life. The objective of the overall project is to promote the integration of schools into their environment.

Because of the scale of the reform and the resources required, it will be implemented gradually over the next nine years, beginning with the 532,000 six-year-olds starting at school around the country.

Altogether there are 3,242,000 children at school this year, 2,272,000 of them in the primary cycle and 453,000 in the middle cycle, the total number of teaching staff being in the region of 90,000. At secondary level, there are 117,000 pupils working for the baccalaureate which they must pass if they wish to go to university. The university enrolment for this year is 50,000 against 40,000 last year; here again, ministry policy is to encourage students as much as possible to opt for scientific and technical courses.

Since independence, the state has allocated approximately 30 per cent of the national budget to education at these various levels. In addition, the various ministries fund the technological institutes for which they are responsible, for instance the Institut agricole de Boumediene, which trains agricultural specialists, the Ministry of Transport's Institut superieur maritime de Bou Ismail, which trains officers for the merchant fleet. The army itself allocates an average of 20 per cent of its budget to vocational training.

Education is free at that level, provided the students agree to work for the Government for twice the number of years they study. Despite the growing emphasis on vocational and technical education and the creation of institutes for specialised training, university degrees are still highly desirable.

In the late 1960s, with the middle class expanding at a fantastic rate, the demands for degrees outstripped new sources of supply and led to the creation of 150 new universities and colleges of higher education in less than five years. They are unable to cope with the demand. It is still a fortunate few who can claim a place at one of the eight most important universities. Last year 240,000 high school diploma students took the examination for the 10,000 places. That has led to a great deal of dissatisfaction and, understandably, student unrest and demonstrations.

While the education authorities recognize the shortages of places and the inadequacies of the curricula, they are less ready to admit to the quality of the education. University teachers often have one or two other jobs as a hedge against the rising cost of living. In order to avoid disruption and other troubles they are occasionally guilty of yielding to student demands for easier pass-marks, simpler examinations and courses.

Administration is riddled with red tape which may in some cases be neutralized by a strong chancellor who has more power than his Western counterparts. Attempts are being made to deal with those difficult parents to educate their daughters are greater. They

number and overcrowded, particularly in the large towns, where a system of half-time schooling is in operation, with children attending for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Literacy has reached 65 per cent on average (99 per cent in the towns, 45 per cent in some rural areas and in the Sahara), but teaching standards are only moderate. The population increase of three per 1,000 and the flight from the rural areas to the towns are not making planning any easier. At university level, the teaching staff are critical of their students' level of general education and standards in French.

Despite these shortcomings, it is generally agreed that bearing in mind the legacy of 150 years of colonialism, independent Algeria has made massive progress in two directions: expressed in clear-cut objectives, the revolution has been aiming on the one hand to return to its Arab-Islamic roots and on the other to remain receptive to modern science and western civilization. The future will tell how successful it has been.

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Dr Naguib Mahfouz, President of Ain Shams University, which has the largest Egyptian faculty of education (and until several years ago the only one), estimates that 25 per cent of his staff are on leave, teaching abroad.

"Egypt has always felt an obligation to the Arab world", he says, "and, with our low salaries, it gives them a chance to make some money."

Despite that forward-looking image in the Arab world, Egypt itself is going through something of a conservative Islamic revival. Although the urban Egyptian has never been known for strict piety, there are more and more signs of a resurgence of Islam.

A well-respected Egyptian professor of Islamic studies in Cairo said he believes that the resurgence is largely a result of the political weaknesses of presidents Nasser and Sadat. In times of trouble they courted the shaykhs of the al-Azhar in order to bolster their own support, he said. The intelligentsia, which he says still dominates the country, is firmly opposed to a rise of traditional Muslim influence.

After the two days of riot in Cairo in January, the shaykhs' first trip in the open afterwards was to al-Azhar mosque to pray, and it was given wide newspaper and television coverage.

In February, after a meeting with the Muslim and Coptic leaders, President Sadat said that "religion must be a basic and compulsory subject in our schools and that 'appropriate steps' would be taken in their direction for the coming school year.

The shaykhs have long sought an expansion of the time allotted for religious training and also its extension through university level. Religion is taught for only two hours a week, and contrary to religious custom, boys and girls attend mixed classes up to secondary school.

But Egypt's burgeoning population and chronic poverty have kept the education system in constant crisis. The country is still roughly 70 per cent illiterate, and the number of illiterates is growing steadily.

The Government has several times announced that soon all children between six and 11, the mandatory school age, will go to school, but it has not yet come close to that goal. Between 20 and 30 per cent of the eligible children are not in school, primarily because there is not enough room for them.

"We have more children going to school every year," Dr Youssef Ghadafi, consultant to the National Centre for Educational Research in Egypt, said. "We cannot build enough schools and we cannot prepare enough teachers. We don't have enough money."

The quality of the education is often poor. There is an average of 40, and sometimes 60, children to a class, with usually one teacher to a room. The teachers themselves are often undertrained. Many of them are not graduates of the education faculties but are specialized in other areas for which there are no jobs available.

They are given a two-week summer course and put in the classroom. Although all students study a foreign language beginning in secondary school, few are able to learn it. The difficulty is that few of their teachers can converse in the language they are teaching.

At least a quarter of the best qualified teachers teach in other Arab countries, where they can make much more money than at home. Egyptians are flown to Saudi Arabia for each term. There are many Egyptians teaching in the Gulf countries, particularly Oman.

Although Egyptian teachers may be considered by some to be backward by western standards, they are the shining light of modern thought in places like Oman,

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Egypt

System in constant crisis

by Timothy Phelps

In the early nineteenth century, Muhammad Ali, the Turk who came to power in Egypt in the wake of Napoleon's retreat, founded what may have been the first secular schools in the country.

His armed forces depended heavily on cavalry. Yet the quality of the veterinarians taking care of the horses was low. Muhammad Ali decided that the koranic schools, where students memorized the Koran, were not doing a proper job, and he established secular schools for this purpose.

With the advent of the British, more schools were founded, and many had British headmasters. But it was not until after the 1952 revolution and the social programmes of President Nasser that there was a concerted effort to make secular education available to the non-privileged levels of society.

Since the revolution thousands of schools have been built, and most of even the small villages throughout the countryside have at least one school. Modern subjects, reading and writing, science and mathematics, are taught. Religion is taught for only two hours a week, and contrary to religious custom, boys and girls attend mixed classes up to secondary school.

But Egypt's burgeoning population and chronic poverty have kept the education system in constant crisis. The country is still roughly 70 per cent illiterate, and the number of illiterates is growing steadily.

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Iran

Pioneer project in a country to watch

by Chris Powell

Iranians have always had a respect for knowledge and learning and for centuries Iran was a world centre for higher education.

The famous Gondi Shapur Medical College was founded in the third century AD and with the advent of Islam the educational tradition was revived. Nezam-ul-Molk, the Persian vizier of the Seljuk sultans in the eleventh century, established a series of colleges named *nezhams* after himself.

"O, Ahuramazda, endow me with an educated child", is an old Zoroastrian prayer which is still relevant today. Education for an Iranian means better job prospects and more money.

In a fast-growing economy the man with special skills gets the thumbs. The right paper qualifications are a passport to top jobs in the Civil Service, commerce and industry and the modern Iranian will ignore any religious or social mores which will prevent him from achieving his goals.

It was not always like this. But Iran's ambitious industrial plans, fuelled by increasing oil revenues in the early 1970s, have created an industrial base which needs large numbers of skilled workers. Despite importing large numbers of foreigners there is still a shortage of 700,000 skilled workers.

Government spending is still not as high as some

would like. The 1977-78 budget allocation (about 220,900m rials (about 51,924m) and covers the entire system from kindergartens to university development and teacher training.

With a population of 34 million, a fifth of whom are being educated, it is an ambitious programme which many educationists admire but in which they find much to criticize.

Much of the country's population lives in an estimated 60,000 villages, two thirds of which have a population of fewer than 250. In 1962 there were 8,000 village schools. Today there are more than 22,000, a result of the massive educational reform initiated by the Shah's white revolution in 1963.

One of the original six points of his programme of reform and innovation was the eradication of illiteracy. Twenty years ago this was calculated at 88 per cent for men and 92 per cent for women.

The creation of the Education Corps provides for young men and women high school graduates to spend 18 months in villages teaching children and adults to read and write. The result is a higher literacy rate, 56 per cent for men and a third for women, and a much needed boost to primary school attendance.

This pioneer project has made Iran a country to watch among nations seeking precedents for adopting a traditional system of education to contemporary difficulties.

However, functional literacy is no longer enough for an ambitious younger generation. An education gives a working class a taste of a higher standard of living and with it a better position in society.

In theory it is no longer impossible to dream of the impossible dream since, under the Shah's decree, 1976 establishing a comprehensive education, it could become a reality.

However, the introduction of free education, which has never been made compulsory because of inadequate facilities in the past, means tremendous pressures on the system. One result was the recent lifting of the 1973 ban on private schools.

Recently the Iranian Government has even had discussions with British educationists on the possibility of setting up schools based on the British public school system. This would create the elitist group they are supposedly trying to avoid.

The shortage of schools is matched by the chronic shortage of teachers. Classes are overcrowded: often 80 to a class in rural areas, 40 in urban areas. City schools often work a shift system, where children attend classes either morning or afternoon, often with the same teachers at both sessions.

Estimates put the shortage of teachers at secondary and primary levels at 30,000, which has prompted the Government to propose a voluntary teaching plan whereby educated Iranians will devote two hours a week to school teaching. This has so far not been implemented.

Ideally, children begin school at the age of five in kindergarten. After this comes five years of primary education followed by a "guidance" cycle which explores aptitudes and includes a number of practical subjects such as carpentry and metalwork, for girls as well as boys.

Up to grade eight at the end of the cycle education is unconditionally free and

also includes a free milk and protein biscuit programme. It appears to work well in urban areas but distribution is not always satisfactory elsewhere.

There are four years at the secondary level, two general and two specialized, as a preparation for university or college. The need for cooperation between secondary and higher education has been recognized for some time and a new system has been devised to fill the gaps, particularly the serious shortage of skilled manpower in industry, agriculture and the services.

The main principles seem to be an emphasis on moral and religious instruction, revision of curricula, good teaching and a greater awareness towards society and the individual. On paper it looks impressive.

Unfortunately only 15 per cent of those attending secondary school come from rural areas, although the numbers are greater at the primary level. It is estimated that at the end of 1978 all children in the six to 11 age group in urban areas and 80 per cent of the same group in rural areas will be in primary school. All of them will be attending by the early 1980s if the present trend is maintained.

There is an urgent need to get away from the early elitism of the system which, with its overlay of western models, meant a stage-by-stage progression from one examination and diploma to another, rather than a comprehensive preparation for life. The new system, it is hoped, will lead to more independence of thought and greater respect for technical as well as academic skills.

There are 58,461 students

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Six stages in a Saudi Arabian achievement

1 On February 22nd, 1976, National Chemical Industries Ltd. was invited to enter into competition with 41 other companies for the construction of 154 schools throughout Saudi Arabia. Each company was required to submit its own complete proposal, covering every stage from design to erection, with a submission deadline date of April 10th. Conceived as the mainspring of the Second Five Year Plan, this massive building development would provide classrooms for about 105,000 students.

Two weeks after the deadline, the number of competing companies had been narrowed to a short-list of fourteen. On June 2nd, contracts were signed allocating twenty-three schools to NCI, the highest number allotted to any single company, and the only contract awarded to a Saudi manufacturer.

Now, in March 1977, NCI has completed its quota and handed the schools over to the Ministry of Education.

The Government's original aim was to satisfy an urgent need for additional school facilities, if necessary by importing temporary buildings. However, the NCI schools are permanent structures. They have been designed to the highest aesthetic, functional and safety standards. They have been built largely from steel, reinforced concrete and reinforced polyester cladding manufactured in Saudi Arabia within the NCI Group, and completed, on time, at highly competitive prices.

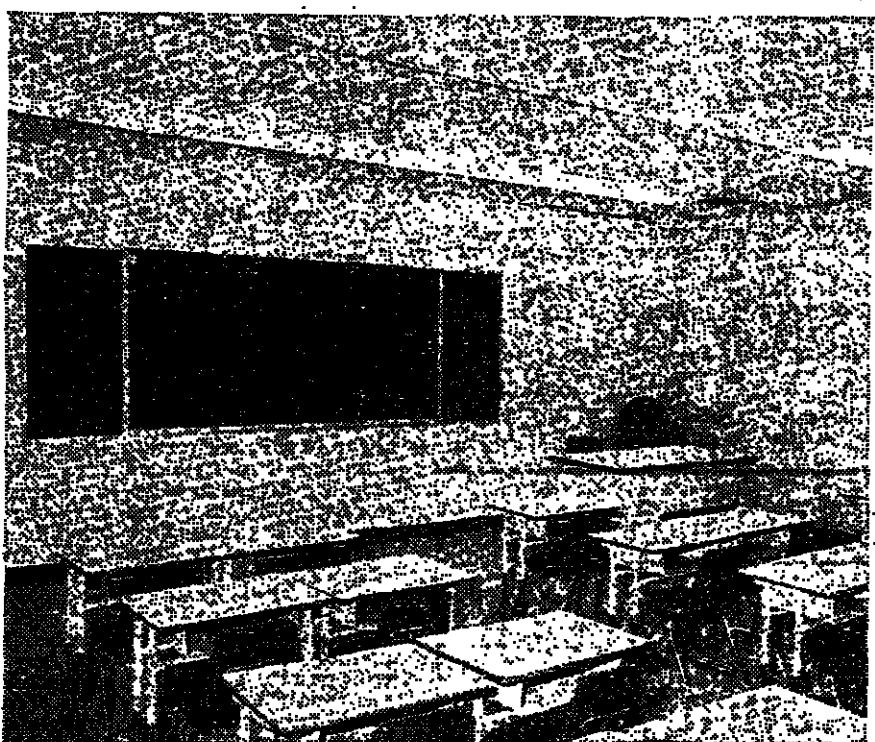
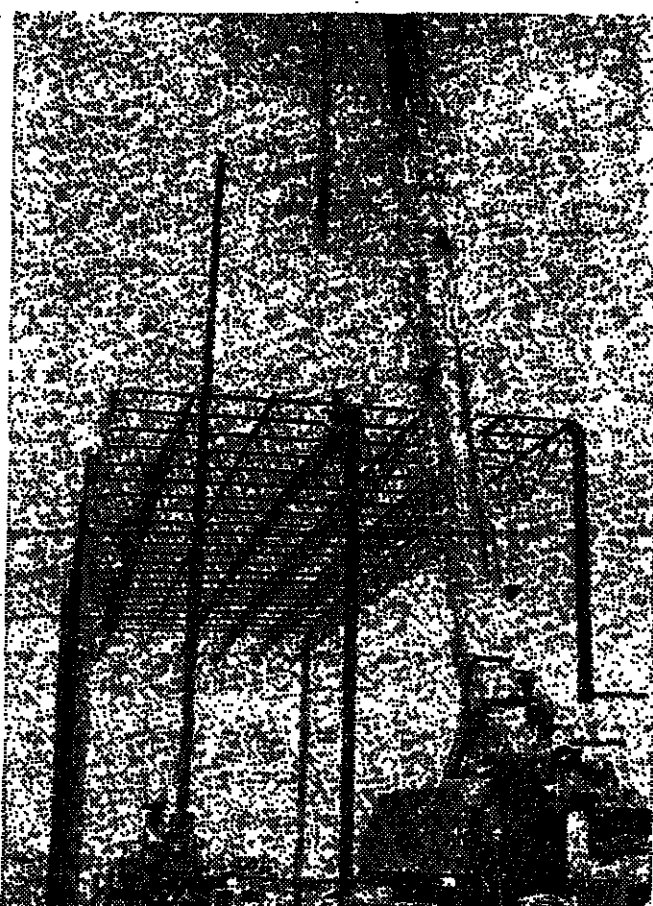
2 The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is bisected by the Tropic of Cancer and suffers from harsh climatic conditions. From the beginning, NCI were aware that a successful school building programme must take full account of these conditions. It was for this reason that they turned to the Canadian partnership, PGL Architects. Internationally renowned for the Mirabel Passenger Terminal at Montreal Airport and the Quebec Pavilion at Montreal's 'Expo '67', PGL had also pioneered the development of largely prefabricated structures for schools and scientific laboratories inside the Arctic Circle. They are no strangers to the particular design problems posed by extreme weather and very isolated construction sites, which proved to be valuable experience in both the Arctic and the Tropics.

PGL's design for the NCI schools called for concrete foundations and steel columns supporting light-weight steel spaceframes forming the first floor and roof. The exterior walls would consist of prefabricated panels of glass-reinforced polyester, 'GRP', specially moulded to take advantage of the interesting shadows cast by a bright overhead sun. Careful thought was given to the use of colour and form as a means of harmonising the schools with existing buildings in a desert environment. The design was extremely flexible, and the architects ensured that the completed structure would be highly resilient, well insulated, durable and very economical to maintain—a vital requirement in Saudi Arabia.

3 Perhaps the single most distinctive feature of an NCI school is the extensive use of a structural steel system designed by the British company, Space Decks Limited. The Space Deck System is now generally recognised as a world leader in its field, and like most truly original concepts, simplicity is the key to its popularity.

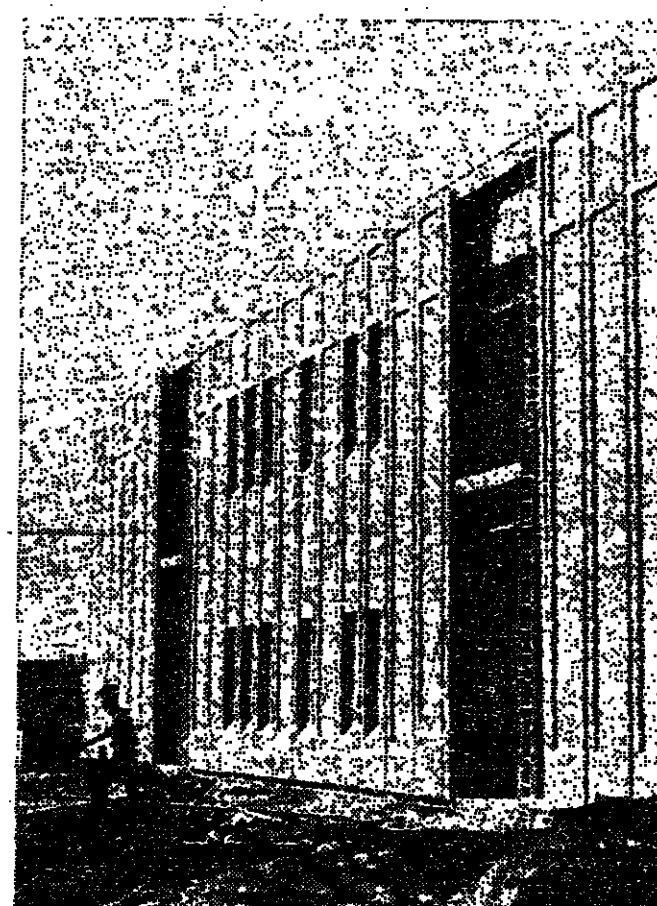
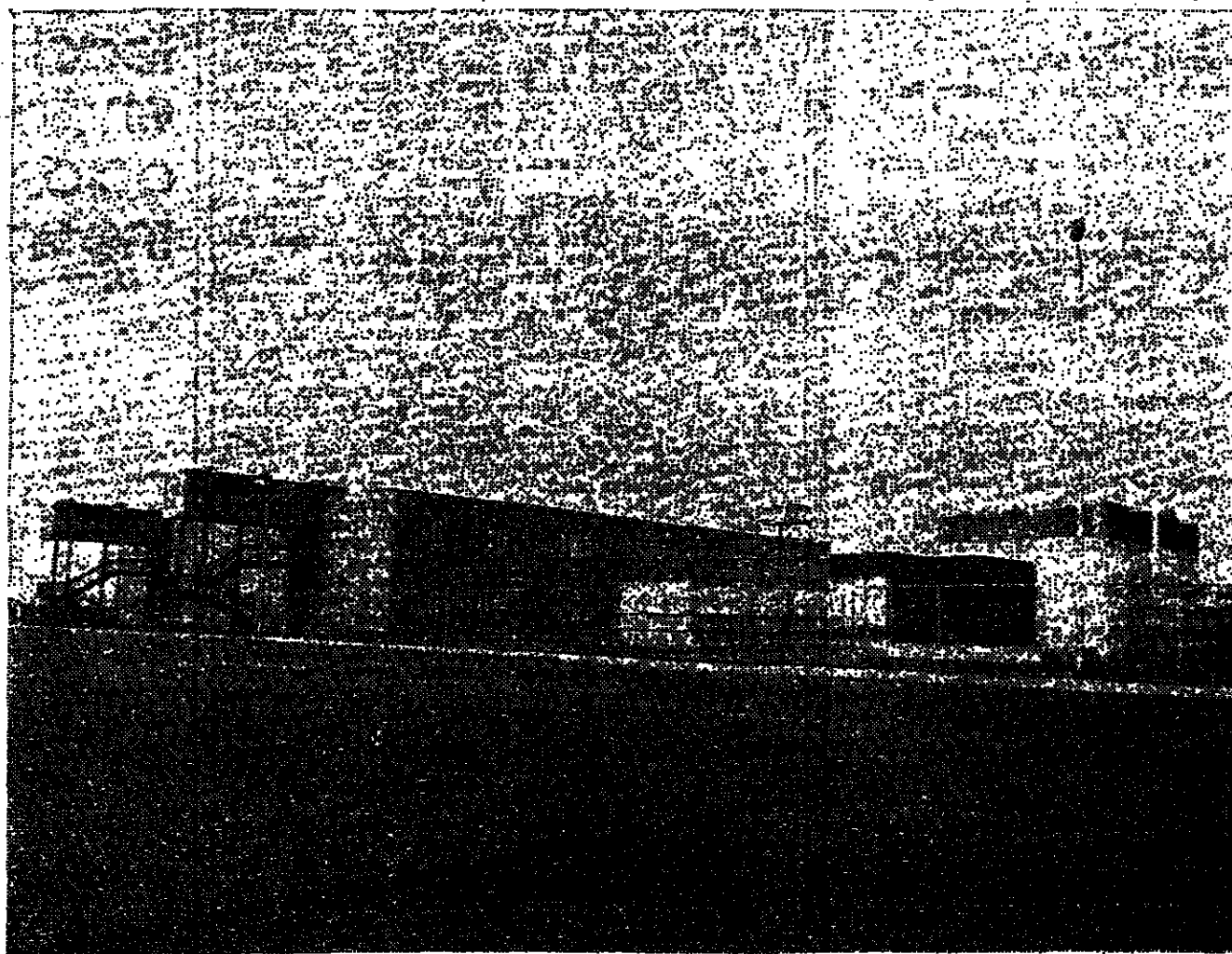
The basic unit consists of eight steel members, welded to form a rigid inverted pyramid. These pyramids can be bolted together at the construction site and hoisted into position without the use of skilled labour, to provide large areas of clearspan load-bearing decks, as well as flat or cambered roofing.

NCI is Space Decks' largest customer, and the controlling shareholder in Beyer Peacock, the light engineering group which includes Space Decks. To meet the demands of the Schools Programme, NCI took over 60% of Space Decks' production capacity in 1976. The raw materials, in the form of angular and tubular steel bars, bosses and tie rods, were produced at the company's headquarters in Chard, Somerset,



and shipped direct to Jeddah for manufacture in the NCI steel factory.

Working to fine tolerances and rigorous standards of quality control, the factory produced 1,100 pyramid units per day at the height of the programme, representing 1,500 square metres of roofing space, finished, stacked, palletised and delivered direct to the site.



4 All the exterior wall sections of the NCI schools were fabricated by NCI's GRP factory in Jeddah, employing 200 men. The Company devotes considerable energy to a development programme which adds continuously to the range of its products moulded from glass-reinforced polyester and other polymers.

As a first stage in the Schools Programme, master moulds for all the wall panels required were hand-made in wood by NCI craftsmen. From these, a series of GRP moulds were fashioned, which when used to maximum capacity, could produce enough panels for two two-storey, twenty-four classroom schools. All in all, over 7,000 GRP panels were produced. The constituent resin was chemically pigmented so there was no need for further painting, and all panels were individually checked before despatch to the twenty-three different sites.

5 In order to guarantee the efficient and fast delivery of a staggering 50,000 tons of imported materials for the Schools Programme, the Company adopted a policy of direct control over its transport facilities, backed by the experience of established transport companies.

P&O Special Projects Division was hired to handle all imports from Western Europe and the United States using roll-on/roll-off vessels. Meanwhile, NCI faced the challenge of covering twenty-three sites in a

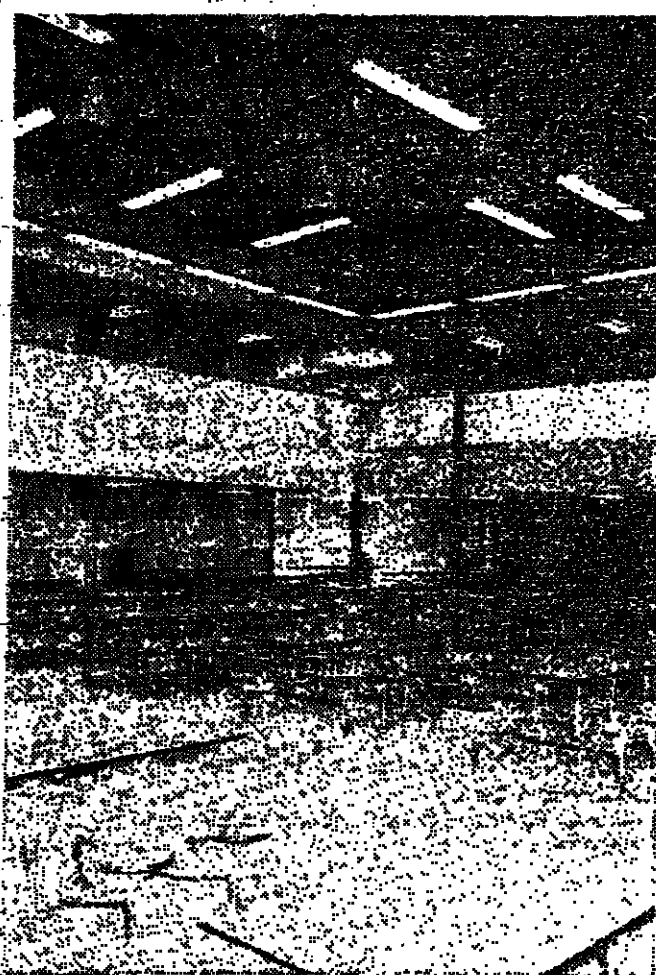
country roughly the size of Western Europe with a fleet of trucks over fifty strong, based 26 kilometres from Jeddah on the highway to Mecca.

Over the last year, transportation played a large part in ensuring that all deadlines were met throughout the school-building programme. This is a considerable achievement by any standards, especially in view of the problems of port congestion in Jeddah which have only recently been overcome.

6 The success of NCI's school-building programme rested on the Company's ability to marshal its own resources and those of PGL Architects and P&O.

The construction of 115,000 square metres of school facilities within the contract period called for all necessary components for a complete building system to be manufactured at the NCI factories in Jeddah.

Though pre-engineered, it must be emphasised that each school is a permanent structure. The external GRP cladding panels provide good weather resistance and excellent insulation due to their sandwich construction. The internal walls and partitions consist of gypsum boards attached to a metal stud system, and are insulated for sound-between classrooms and corridors with fibre wool.



Each building is centrally air-conditioned, a considerable advantage over simpler prefabricated structures. The school is a self-contained unit with its own complete infrastructure, including independent power, water and sewerage systems, and provides either eighteen or twenty-four classrooms for 576 and 768 children respectively. A large central dining area caters for all students in two sittings, and provides a free midday meal from food prepared on the premises. Apart from the classrooms, each school contains administrative facilities, a headmaster's office and two staff common rooms, as well as a spacious library.

Outside, a unique feature of NCI's schools is the large play area protected from the sun by a Space Deck canopy supported 8 metres (26 feet) above ground on steel columns. Planned as a multi-purpose volleyball, basketball and general recreation area, the dimensions of the canopy are identical to those of the main school building, so the canopy could easily be used as the shell of a future extension if the Government wished to expand the facilities.

NCI has tackled the challenge of one of Saudi Arabia's most intensive building programmes to date. At the beginning of the new school year, over 15,000 children will begin their education in NCI-built schools. Due to the tremendous priority given to educational development by the Saudi Arabian Government, it is no exaggeration to say that these children will now have a standard of educational facilities comparable to the most advanced schools in the world's leading industrial nations.



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Pakistan

Peasants to gain from new strategy

by Hasan Akhtar

Thirty years ago Pakistan emerged from partition of the Indian sub-continent as one of the world's poorest states, with a literacy rate of only 10 to 12 per cent.

For a population of 32 million, there were about 8,400 primary schools, 2,600 secondary schools and two universities. There were two engineering colleges and two medical colleges with a capacity to produce annually 123 graduate engineers and 50 graduate doctors.

The total expenditure by the Government on education during the new state's first year was only Rs23m. The education system then in use was formulated by the colonial British Government in India, which primarily needed secretarial staff for manning government jobs in lower echelons of the administration.

After independence the immediate task was to provide more educational institutions of all kinds for an increasing number of pupils and to evolve a system of education which could meet Pakistan's distinctive requirements.

There were two immediate difficulties to be faced: a population growth rate of more than 3.5 per cent and the inadequate financial and technical resources of an underdeveloped state. The situation was further complicated by the fact that the country was unable to define clearly its development priorities and lacked the political stability which was vital for socio-economic progress.

Education received a very low priority in the Government's plans. As it was, the Muslims under British rule had been largely apathetic towards modern education, notwithstanding the injunction of the prophet Muhammad to seek knowledge even if in quest one was required to go as far as China.

Efforts to expand education and introduce reforms were made after independence but they did not have on appreciable national impact. The main reason for this failure was lack of financial resources and

skilled manpower to run education programmes.

Until 1975 Pakistan spent only Rs31 a head on education, which amounted to 1.8 per cent of gross national product. Though education expenditure was raised over the years it remained the lowest among developing countries with a similar national income, which spent between 2.3 and 2.5 per cent of gnp on education.

In 1972 the Government formulated a new education policy on the basis of an eight-year development programme. It is estimated that the past five years of the programme will cost Rs9,000m. The new policy seeks to achieve well-defined objectives, with emphasis on promotion of the ideological basis of Pakistan, the introduction of an agro-technical bias in school education and reduction of the rate of illiteracy within the shortest possible time through enforcement of free compulsory education and massive adult literacy programme.

State control was first step

The new educational strategy is to concentrate more on expansion of primary education by providing larger financial allocations to it instead of spending proportionately larger sums on higher education, make it readily and equally accessible to children from less privileged classes, particularly the peasants and workers, and reduce capital outlays.

In pursuance of altered priorities in education and the new strategy the Government as a first step decided to bring education within the public sector. A total of 3,334 privately managed schools and colleges were nationalised. They included colleges teaching science, the humanities and professional courses and 346 madrasahs (schools concentrating on religious education).

The next step was to revise school and college curricula to make education more functional. For this purpose, a federal bureau of

curricula was set up with experts working on evolving new courses of studies in different subjects at various levels. School education was made free in order to make it universal. The new education policy aims at providing by 1980 primary education free to all boys and 70 per cent of girls between the ages of five and nine.

By the time the new educational programme had covered half its stipulated run, it was discovered that achievement fell far short of expectations. The main reason for this was paucity of funds; money allocated for education was diverted to meet the expenses arising out of disasters like floods. The annual enrolment rate of children at the primary level was limited to 20 per cent as against the target of 55 per cent. Similar limitations were imposed on middle and secondary schools.

Significant results were attained, however, in higher education. The number of universities rose to nine, including two separate universities for engineering and agriculture.

An open university was set up with the technical support of the Open University in Britain as part of the mass education programme, which aims to impart basic education to 11 million adults by 1980. In order to coordinate development of higher education, a university grants commission has been established.

Female education is another area where the new policy has met with considerable success. Segregated education for women, particularly at the school level and, in socially backward regions, at college level, was necessary in view of Islam's strict injunction for women to observe purdah.

At the end of last year the percentage share of girls' enrolment in a year was 29.8 at primary level, 26.1 at middle level and 30.1 at college level, significantly higher than 10 years ago. The turn-out from the engineering and medical colleges has risen five-fold in 10 years. A number of engineering colleges have been added over the years, with an annual output of about 1,600. The medical colleges have been able to provide every year about 1,100 grad-

uates, including about 400 women.

Two innovations in schools under the new policy have been the introduction of a distinct agro-technical bias for classes at levels seven and eight and the introduction of Islamic studies (study of Islam) and Deeniat (theology) as a compulsory subject up to class 10.

The new policy emphasises the study of ideological basis for the existence of Pakistan, mainly on the ground that for a healthy ideological development of the country such studies are essential. The education policy envisaged that the study of Islam should not remain an isolated item in the curriculum but that the values and the spirit of Islam should be woven into the entire warp and woof of our educational fabric.

Another reason for emphasizing the need to adhere to Islamic values arises from the fact that Pakistan is a country with a varied cultural heritage and different regional languages. Its 70 million people speak five languages and are proud of their distinctive cultural heritage.

Although sectarian prejudices have been occasionally very sharp in Pakistan, the National Bureau of Curriculum was able to achieve agreement among the leaders of the Sunni and Shia sects in evolving an agreed course of studies for classes one to 10.

A single course of studies in Islam was prepared for both sects up to class-eight. The course includes study of the Koran, the life of Muhammad and the general code for a Muslim. The course prescribed for classes nine and 10 includes separate studies for Sunni and Shia students on the rituals of the two sects.

Care was taken to exclude from theological studies any issues which might exacerbate sectarian prejudices. Provision has been made at post-school stages and even at the level of higher education for Islamic and Pakistani studies with a distinct bias towards creating among the students a spirit of Islamic brotherhood and cultural affinity with Muslims in other parts of the world, particularly in the Middle East.

by Sinan Fisek

After he led Turkey to independence in the early 1920s, Kemal Ataturk transformed his country almost overnight from a religious Islamic state to a secular western republic.

"Culture shock" was inevitable, and for more than 50 years a small proportion of Turks—about a tenth of the adult population—yearned for the day when the Koran would once again be law and the "decadent western ways" imposed by Ataturk would be abandoned.

That sometimes vocal and, according to some observers, well-organized minority is still far from having its way. But it has found a champion for its cause in the person of Professor Necmettin Erbakan, who leads the National Salvation Party, a pro-Islamic organization which is the second largest partner of Turkey's four-party coalition Government and which preaches spiritual and economic development according to the teachings of the Koran.

Ataturk himself never much liked things religious, and he created something of a furor. So did the tenth grade textbook entitled *Introduction to Philosophy*. The line, "Shit is approved of and practice adultery", was roundly condemned, especially by the various Muslim groups, notably from Saudi Arabia.

But never before had it so

many of most Turks, has succeeded in imposing some of its views on the educational system, although the Ministry of National Education is headed by Mr Ali Naili Erdem, a member of Mr Demirel's pro-Western, conservative Justice Party.

Under pressure from the NSP, as well as another extremist member of the coalition, former colonel Alparslan Turkes's right-wing National Action Party, Mr Erdem has imposed a number of changes in the system which were met with howls of disapproval by progressive, liberal and Kamalist circles.

To begin with, large numbers of socialist teachers were moved around the country, or taken off duty and replaced where possible by "nationalists". Second, the ministry decided on what it calls the "single book system" in secondary education. Under it every school in Turkey is to study a single book on a given subject.

Unfortunately, the choice of writers was an unhappy one. Sentences such as "all people can be honourable, but obviously the honour of a worker cannot be equal to that of a doctor" in the textbook on morals understandably created somewhat of a furor. So did the tenth grade textbook entitled *Introduction to Philosophy*. The line, "Shit is approved of and practice adultery", was roundly condemned, especially by the various Muslim groups, notably from Saudi Arabia.

But never before had it so

openly attacked the so-called sacrosanct educational establishment in Turkey. Despite official pressures, however, many teachers are resisting, as are many students, although some of them are forcibly being kept out of the classrooms.

Official circles deny that religion and rightist rhetoric are taking over in Turkish schools, and say that the new system aims only at "preserving our national morals" and sense of values.

Others, such as Mr Mustafa Ustundag, Minister of National Education in the government of Mr Bülent Ecevit, disagree completely. "This Government is clearly trying to force Turkish education back into the scholasticism of the dark ages", he says. "Every line where secularism, Kemalism or westernization was mentioned has been knocked out of the new school books. This Government is obviously trying to keep the masses ignorant and, at the same time, trying to produce a generation reared on backward ideas."

He hopes that his party, the social democratic Republican People's Party, the largest in Parliament, will emerge from this year's elections with enough votes to lead to come to power alone so that this backward trend can be nipped in the bud.

Mr Ustundag thinks that the new system has not been effective so far, mainly because of the teachers' and students' decision to resist.

But if this were to con-

tinue for a decade, he says, "it would probably have a certain amount of success, and do great harm to the country. The result would be that, at a time when even the most backward of Third World countries are striving to advance and educate themselves, Turkey would not obviously go inexorably backwards, but would face a further major delay in its progress."

The changes made by the present Government will be eliminated if and when the Republican People's Party comes to power, but these radical switches coming with changes in the government "will do great harm to the Turkish educational system", Mr Ustundag says, "and we will not know for years and years how much harm actually has been done."

He and other urban intellectuals believe that attempts "to take Turkish education back to the dark ages" are bound to fail. They argue that in underdeveloped or developing countries such as Turkey, religion helps to keep the majority of the people ignorant, particularly in the poorer regions of the country. In order to keep a form of primitive capitalism functioning for the benefit of a privileged minority.

Most sincere believers, though, deplore the use of religion as an instrument to this end. There is a verse in the Koran which says: "There can be no use of force in religion."

Indonesia

Two streams may meet one day

modernists, it has lately been making numerous grants for new pesantren books and buildings.

It hopes that the two educational streams will merge eventually. For the moment, though, there is a clear and obvious difference between the two systems.

In the government schools, children begin their elementary education at the age of six or seven and, six years later, may go on to three years of junior secondary school education and another three years of senior secondary school education. A further three years of tertiary education may follow.

In 1970 there were 12,800,000 children at primary school, or 53.6 per cent of the school-age population at this level.

In the junior high schools, there were 737,000 pupils, a mere 7 per cent of the

school-age population for that level. At the senior high school level, only 5 per cent (417,000) of the school-age population were enrolled and there were 127,000 university students.

Despite considerable strides in education over the past few years, government planners admit that in 1979 there will still be places for only 85 per cent of the children aged between seven and 12.

Unlike the government schools, which are under the direct control of the Ministry of Education, the pesantren are small, village-level schools controlled by the local community and run by imams and other religious teachers. Financial support generally comes from local religious elders and *hajis*.

In a pesantren, a child is taught to be a good Muslim. He is schooled in the intricacies of Islamic teaching, taught to pray in the correct manner, taught to read and write and expected to memorize certain sections of the Koran. Though the medium of instruction is Bahasa Indonesia, the national language, it is also given a grounding in Arabic.

Pesantren, which exist throughout Java (and, under different names, in the outer islands), provide the backbone of village education. They are the main vehicle of instruction for converts to Islam. Life is still controlled by traditional forces and where the symbol of unity is the local mosque.

The education provided is centred almost exclusively on religious and traditional subjects. There is little or no instruction in science, social studies and hygiene, although *Silat*, the Malay art of self-defence, is sometimes taught.

Education is provided in a pesantren to junior secondary school level but because education begins quite late in the village environment, a child might be 10 years old before he enters primary school at 15 or 16 by the time he finishes.

Originally pesantren were a progressive force. Founded by Islamic elders as a means of sustaining Islamic teaching at a time of serious challenge from the Dutch, they played an important role in the Indonesian independence struggle.

But with the progress in government-funded education and the growing emphasis on modern, practical subjects, pesantren have fallen very far behind. To many Indonesians, they are running in the same old groove at a time when there is a need for an expansion of educational horizons.

Many Indonesians felt that pesantren need to be upgraded so that they can catch up with the government schools. There is a feeling that they simply do not provide students with the necessary preparation for life in the modern world.

Basically, one western-educated Indonesian says, "pesantren teaching prepares people for the life after death. What they need also is preparation for the life after school."

Islamic teaching is, theoretically, adaptable, many

Indonesians argue, and so there is no reason why the traditional pesantren curriculum cannot be updated.

Just look what Kemal Ataturk did in Turkey, one Indonesian says.

This, of course, is the very message the Indonesian Government is striving to put across. The Ministry of Education would like slowly to integrate and upgrade the pesantren so that they will eventually be absorbed into the modernist education system.

Standing somewhere between the pesantren and the Government-run schools but with their feet planted very firmly in the modern world, are the *muhammadiyah*.

A modernist social-religious organization established in Jemberkarta in 1912, the Muhammadiyah spread rapidly and today runs primary and high schools throughout Indonesia and even several universities.

Muhammadiyah schools cover the full range of modern education in their curricula and their degrees and diplomas are accepted without question by the Government.

Unlike pupils from the pesantren, muhammadiyah graduates are free to sit for all government examinations and many do very well. As private schools and universities, these institutions are covered by Government education regulations and are directly answerable to the Ministry of Education.

The author is Jakarta correspondent, the Far Eastern Economic Review.

KINGDOM of SAUDI ARABIA KING ABDUL AZIZ UNIVERSITY, JEDDAH/MECCA

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Research Centre:

To carry on and guide research and edit manuscripts:
6 Professors.
6 Assistant Professors.
To carry on research:
8 Graduate Assistants.

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On Education Research Methodology:
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Sociology of Education:
1 Professor or Associate Professor.
Educational Administration: 1 Associate Professor.
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Department of Educational Psychology

2 Lecturers.

Department of Curriculum

Education Media: 1 Professor.
Method of Teaching Arabic:
1 Professor or Associate Professor.

Department of English

Linguistics or Applied Linguistics:
4 Associate or Assistant Professors.
Linguistics or Applied Linguistics: 2 Lecturers.
Literature: 1 Lecturer.

Department of Geography

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Natural Geography:
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1 Associate or Assistant professor (Female).
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- Engineers and Architects:
Qualifications: B.Sc. in Engineering or Architecture and 5 years' experience in designing and supervising.
- Civil Engineer (Construction) 1.
Civil Engineer (Health) 1.
Civil Engineer (Air Conditioning) 1.
Civil Engineer (Electric) 1.
Qualifications: B.Sc. in Engineering and 5 years of experience in designing and supervising.

by David Jenkins

Thirty-two years after independence the secular schools and universities established by the Republic of Indonesia have outstripped in importance the old Islamic boarding schools (*pesantren*) which did so much to promote religious education there in the face of a sustained challenge from western (Dutch) educational influences during the colonial period.

However, the Army-backed Government of President Suharto is not at all anxious to see a widening of the division between the independent Muslim schools and the education system covering the country, which is presided over by the Ministry of Education.

To help to bridge the growing gulf between the traditionalists and the secular

modernists, it has lately been making numerous grants for new pesantren books and buildings.

It hopes that the two educational streams will merge eventually. For the moment, though, there is a clear and obvious difference between the two systems.

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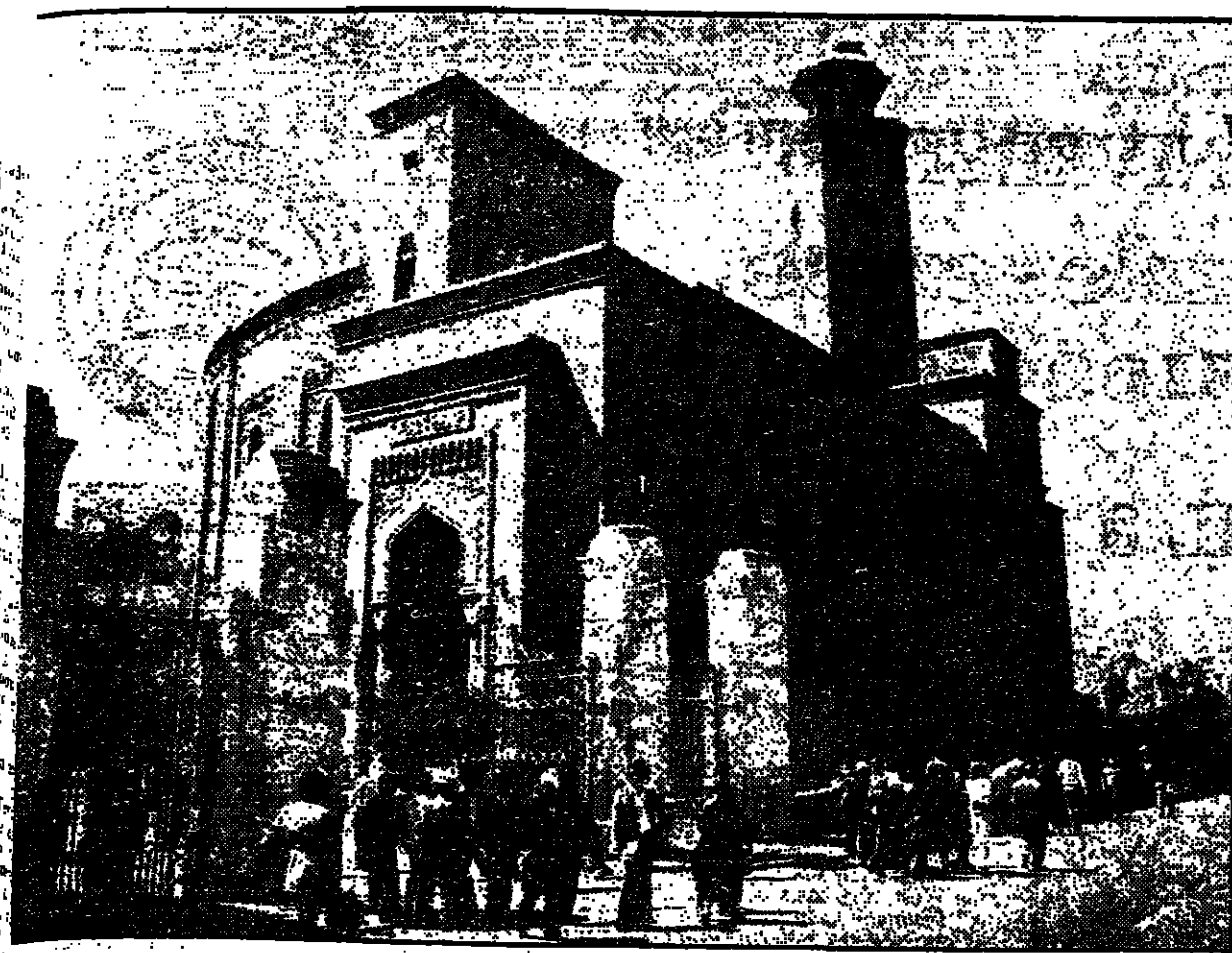
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Greetings to the First
World Conference on
Muslim Education

continued on facing page



The main gate of the university, with the Sultan Abdul Lecture hall.

Al-Azhar University, Cairo

Origins in propaganda

by A. L. Tibawi

The broad principles of Islamic education are rooted in the divine revelation as enshrined in the Koran. At its very inception this education was imparted orally according to the pre-Islamic tradition of transmitting Arabic poetry. The Koran itself was proclaimed orally by the Prophet Muhammad and propagated by his followers by word of mouth. Only after a generation was it written down in an authorised version.

During that formative period practically all education was concerned with the teaching and preaching of the holy writ. Neither during the lifetime of the Prophet nor under his immediate successors was there any conscious effort to establish even the rudiments of secular schools.

Since the mosque (al-jami) then served as the focus of religious, political and communal affairs, it was also made to serve as the centre of all educational activity. This circumstance gave it one of its permanent characteristics.

In 969 Egypt fell to the Fatimids. Their military commander encamped his way just outside the old capital and in the centre of the camp he began the building of a mosque which he called al-Azhar. After 10 years it was inaugurated for prayer and a few years later it was used also in the propagation of the new doctrines of the new masters by specially trained preachers. They preached also in the new capital, a place near by and in a new institution called Dar al-ilm (House of Learning).

Preaching at the three places was under the control of a high dignitary significantly called chief propagandist. All those who served under him were called state servants, and all those who attended the lectures were called students, and living quarters were assigned to those who needed them.

There was a parallel development in the Sunni camp, although there it took a long time in the making. He counterpart of al-Azhar was an institution called al-Nadwa (higher school or college), devoted to the study of Islamic law, theology, exegesis and the auxiliary Arabic disciplines. The most celebrated

school under this system was the Nizamiyah in Baghdad. Here again the teachers were paid by the state and the students received allowances and were given free lodgings. The madrasah suffered no revolutionary change such as was the fate of al-Azhar after nearly two hundred years under the Fatimids. After Saladin's rise to power and his confirmation in the government of Egypt by the Abbasid Caliph, al-Azhar was changed into a Sunni institution, and has remained so ever since its successive Islamic dynasties. Its curriculum embraced Koranic exegesis, theology, jurisprudence and the sciences of the Arabic language.

Under the Ottoman sultans it gained in prestige and in shakhs (rectors) became the head of the ulema corps. It increasingly attracted students from all parts of the Ottoman Empire and also from distant Islamic countries beyond its borders. That is indicated in the growth of residential halls for foreign students within the original building and in the precincts bearing the national or regional names of the occupants.

Increased endowments made it possible to enlarge the buildings and to admit more students with corresponding increase in the number of teachers. But the curriculum hardly changed. Although some of the professors are reputed to have pursued the study of mathematical, physical and medical sciences, there is no evidence that they taught those or similar disciplines.

Such were the conditions when in 1798 Napoleon invaded Egypt. In the spirit of the French Revolution, the French left al-Azhar. Muhammad Ali, the semi-independent ruler of the Ottoman Empire, embarked on a scheme of modernization including the establishment of new schools, parallel to and independent of the traditional schools.

About that time al-Azhar had more than 500 teachers and some 10,000 students. Its graduates were legion. In Egypt, two of them deserve special mention. The first is Zuhul Fashan, who led the Egyptian national movement against the British and influenced the people with his oratory. The second is Taha Hussein, the pioneer in modern Arabic literature, who after further education at the Sorbonne, became successively university professor, minister of education and president of the Arabic Language. He was one of the best-known academic centres in the Middle East. At the beginning of the 1974 academic year, students came from 70 countries to study at the institution with its libraries and 75-acre campus.

When Daniel Bliss was asked by the Protestant church 112 years ago to create a new college in Syria, he announced that the new college would be named after him and how heroic his words would sound during the worst days of the Lebanese civil war.

Standing in the tall, mock-gothic hall, he announced that the new university in Beirut (Lebanon was part of Syria in the nineteenth century) would be open to all, whether Muslim, Christian or Jew. A student, Bliss said, could believe in one god or many gods or no god.

Cynics might argue that when the university's greatest test came last year, some of the students could have been forgiven for forsaking every religion. Yet the academic faculties of the American University in Beirut managed, through the courage of the staff and students, through some adroit financial schemes, and probably a lot of prayers, to continue almost uninter-

rupted. The university which Bliss founded, the Syrian Protestant College, is not only still functioning on the slopes of Ras-Beirut above the Mediterranean, but is preparing its academic programme for 1977-78.

With an annual intake of between 3,500 and 5,000 students, the American University, founded in 1920, is one of the best-known academic centres in the Middle East. At the beginning of the 1974 academic year, students came from 70 countries to study at the institution with its libraries and 75-acre campus.

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American University of Beirut

Campus in the firing line

by Robert Fisk

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Eyes left: the courses are open to all.

begin the following January. Yet the medicine and nursing schools never closed.

Palestinian, Maronite, Greek Orthodox, Muslim and Roman Catholic doctors and medical students continued to run the hospital under fire and under great personal danger. Gunmen roamed the hospital corridors seeking help for wounded friends, ordering medical staff at the point of a gun to perform immediate operations on members of paramilitary groups who were needed in the battles.

As the first cease-fires of 1976 allowed the Beirut population to return to the city, the other faculties of the university—arts and sciences, agriculture, engineering and architecture—reopened, but when gun-

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Government said it would pay £18 a day for each casualty the hospital treated although treatment in fact cost about £40 a day. The Government still owes the university £1m.

University officials begged creditors for loans but, like most people in Beirut whose salaries did not pay their electricity or water bills.

Six students were murdered, but the university still managed to remain open. A thousand enrolled for the winter term of 1976.

Medical supplies came into Lebanon for the hospital from the United States Disaster Relief Agency, first through Beirut airport, then, when the airport closed, by road from Damascus. Almost £2m worth of medical supplies arrived and AUB shared 40 per cent of them with other hospitals in the city.

In the university administrative offices today, professors are working out the final details of the academic year and AUB will once again be offering more than a dozen kinds of bachelors' and masters' degrees. Only the PhD courses have been temporarily frozen because of the war.

Apart from the basic degrees in English, history, chemistry, biology, mathematics, physics, geology, economics and social and behavioural sciences, AUB is also still offering degrees in Arabic and Near Eastern languages.

The university is still, as it was at its foundation ceremony when Bliss made his memorable statement, open to all.

University of the Bosphorus

Young faculty confronts tensions

by Godfrey Goodwin

The tourist on the Bosphorus ferryboat cannot be impressed by the fortress of Rumeli Hisar. He may glimpse the large college buildings among the trees beside it which also have a place in Turkish history.

The founding of Robert College in 1868 was a result of nineteenth-century missionary zeal and the business acumen of Christopher Robert. A board of trustees appointed Dr Cyrus Hamlin its first president and he bought 170 acres on the hilltop above Bebek which surrounded the library of Ahmet Vefik Pasha.

Hamlin also possessed exceptional qualities and had advanced educational views. First and foremost he did not see education simply as an escape through intensive reading or abstract research in a laboratory.

His teaching had a practical bias, especially through carpentry. During the Crimean War he had set up a bakery which supplied Florence Nightingale's hospital. He also washed the four uniforms of the wounded, which no one would touch, by spinning them in a series of large barrels full of soda.

He was the architect and humanities course under the foreign faculty including Dr

leader of an imposing educational centre, Hamlin

Hamlin introduced them to the library enjoyed large

By 1968, the centennial year, the student body was now almost completely Turkish

The new policy was sustained by a highly structured language division with fully equipped laboratories

There the graduates of Turkish national high schools learnt sufficient English in one year to be able to follow a degree course

The success of Dr Sheldon Wise's department enabled the college to recruit the sons and daughters of people in humble circumstances from the hinterlands

These changes were reflected in the emergence of a talented folkloric and dance group alongside the long-established cultural societies which were a vital part of college life

The changes divided the university from the high school, which continued to occupy two halls and share canteen, library and other campus facilities, not least the football pitch

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DR OWEN LOOKS AT AFRICA

It is wise of Dr Owen to try to make a visit to Rhodesia in his African tour, which is expected to begin this week. Since, as he said yesterday, he does not think Mr Smith is the sole key to a settlement, then he ought to look at the others, including particularly the position of Bishop Muzorewa. At the moment, the negotiations between Mr Smith and the Bishop are probably the most important aspect of the Rhodesia problem. It is probable that, given the right terms, the Bishop is in a position to make a settlement which his rivals would have to adhere to, rather than the other way about.

The problem, as even the Times, and Dr Owen might do, is good by again clarifying the issues: Mr Smith has now made clear that he is in no way bound by that part of the proposed package under which he conceded majority rule in two years from the setting up of an interim regime. This is hardly surprising, since the interim regime collapsed at Geneva largely as the result of inter-African quarrels. It is useless now to suggest that Mr Smith was going back on anything. But nevertheless he felt he has to restate it in clear-up-confused thinking.

Why was this necessary?

There seem to be two reasons. The first arises from the fact that though the Kissinger package is now dead, Mr Smith still works for a negotiated settlement that will win western approval, though exclusively within Rhodesia. But this upsets the hardliners in the Rhodesia Front, who dislike giving in to American pressure, but utterly reject giving in to what they see as

extreme African demands no longer backed by American pressure.

They expressed their discontent in the short-lived party split over the very limited 'non-discrimination' Bill a fortnight ago. They now see Bishop Muzorewa demanding a referendum which is to identify the African majority leader, who could then—they fear—claim to be the majority ruler of the whole country, and seek to renege the two-year commitment to majority rule. To many such frontiers, the collapse of the Geneva conference, and the rejection of Mr Ivor Richard's proposals, blessedly reinstated unadorned white rule for the foreseeable future — "Mr Smith's lifetime" or longer. The Government's statement, while not endorsing this interpretation, is meant to mollify them.

More worrying for the regime is the growing questioning of the younger whites in uniform. They are asking what they are now supposed to be fighting for. Before Kissinger it was for white Rhodesia, the life-style and land they made for themselves, at least for Mr Smith's lifetime. But after Kissinger it seems to many of them that the war can only end in some form of black rule.

The Government statement implies that there is not going to be black rule within two years, and insists that they will continue the war until the terrorists are defeated. It may be questioned whether this will carry fresh conviction to the often weary men in the field, hurrying from end to end of a vast terrain, and swiftly alternating like Mr Box and Corporal Cox between the work-

Stechford and the unions

From Mr Alan Campbell, QC
Sir, The mounting record of days lost through strikes shows that relations between RMG and the trade unions have been stretched to breaking point. At least the Stechford poll points the way to a positive alternative. The myth that rank and file trade unionists will not vote Conservative has lost all credence in the tallies. This political bogey, draped in a mantle with "confrontation" edged shimmering scarlet has haunted the city alleyways to the terror of investors. It has now been laid to rest.

There is (so it would appear) no prospect that the next Conservative administration would introduce any substantial changes in the law of industrial relations. If any changes were to be made these could only come after serious consultation. This—and the fact that it has been stated that in the due exercise of its functions the next Conservative administration proposes to govern—does not diminish Stechford. The result not only serves as a polemic warning of settled discontent, but also as the anticipation of a mandate for better government.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ALAN CAMPBELL,
1 Harcourt Buildings,
Temple, E.C.4,
April 1.

From Mr D. W. O'Callaghan
Sir, Before writing off the recent agreement reached between the Government and the Liberal Party, your readers may wish to consider the following figures from Stechford:

Combined Labour and Liberal vote:	16,683
Conservative vote:	15,731
Lib-Lab majority:	952

Res ipsa loquitur!

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL W. O'CALLAGHAN,
62 Lawford Road, NW5,
April 1.

From the Rector and Vice-Provost of the Royal College of Art
Sir, Other correspondents have drawn attention to the effect of the 300 per cent fee increases on unsupported students already committed to university courses. Entry into the profession, but less publicized, will be the consequential decrease in funds for the no less important courses offering professional training to students on discretionary grants.

It seems tragic that a grant award system based on need, and people whose selection is justified by skill alone, and built on the mutual respect between institutions and local authorities, should be so arbitrarily curtailed.

Yours faithfully,
ESHER,
Royal College of Art,
Kingsdown Lane, SW7,
April 1.

From Mr Christopher Monckton
Sir, The Dean of Norwich (March 31) lends his support to the proposal by the Church of England and others of a resolution at the Midland Bank's Annual General Meeting that no further loans be made to South Africa by the bank. I share his misgivings at a proposal which is, in my opinion, and other members of his Church should devote so much of their breath, time and effort to condemning the Government of South Africa while remaining strongly silent, for the most part, on the wrongs of other governments.

What of the oppressed majorities in the Soviet Union and her satellites? In China and here? In Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia? In Angola, and Mozambique? If a tenth of the reports from these unfortunate countries are true, the sufferings of their citizens are worse and more widespread than those of the non-white races in South Africa. Is the Dean sought for their comfort?

Some have argued that the campaign against South Africa is justified on the grounds that her government shows signs of susceptibility to world opinion, while other governments operate such rigid controls over the information which their citizens are allowed to receive that they can afford to cock a snook at international pressure. But is not that an argument for doing one's utmost to ensure that other citizens may enjoy, at the very least, the limited freedoms enjoyed by the people of South Africa?

Christ's injunction to His Apostles to "Go ye and preach the Gospel to all nations" but "Go ye and teach all nations".

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MONCKTON,
51 Westgate,
Wetherby,
Yorkshire,
March 31.

Army training in peacetime

From the Commandant of the Staff College
Sir, The students and instructors here at the Staff College will have read with interest the views of the anonymous serving officer whose opinions you published on March 31. I would be the first to acknowledge that much of what he says is true. It is not easy, nor always wise, to step out of line in peacetime, and the maverick, as your correspondent calls him, will find far greater opportunities for his kind in the world. However, I would be curious to know what sort of men your correspondent would like to see in the high appointments in the Army.

The decisions which need to be taken in peacetime demand careful and reasoned thought, coupled often with much research and discussion. Certainly this is a different technique from decision-making in war. But the public are seldom shown the training systems by which we prepare officers for command in war, nor do they often meet the Army's field commanders (mainly abroad). It is just this training for command in war for which I, as Commandant of the Staff College, am responsible.

Perhaps the continued presence here of officer students from all over the world, and the opportunity to consider the training to be met by well spent, is some evidence that this College achieves what it sets out to do. During their course the students are given extensive oppor-

Nuclear power poll

From the Editor of New Society
Sir, In yesterday's issue (March 30), you report on the results of an opinion poll into people's attitudes to nuclear power, printed in this week's New Society. The headline was: "Majority against new nuclear stations."

Both the headline and the report seemed to ignore the answers to the first of the questions we put to our sample, and which we printed as follows:

In response to the question: "In general, do you favour or oppose the building of more nuclear power stations in Britain to produce electricity?" we got the following answer: 49 per cent in favour; 32 per cent against. The remainder felt that they did not know.

It is true that when more detailed questions were put, various reservations emerged, but none the less this broad acceptance of nuclear power stations seems pretty unequivocal.

Whether one thinks this response should be the basis of policy or not, it is a different matter. But I would like to set the record straight on the findings themselves.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL BARKER, Editor,
New Society,
King's Reach Tower,
Stamford Street, SE1.

Health of MPs

From Mr R. J. Heald
Sir, We are all accustomed to the delusions of politicians about the facts of life. One begins to wonder if they are now beginning to delude themselves about the facts of death. There is not one lot of evidence that anyone has ever died of hard work or indeed of "stress". On the contrary the number of heart attacks was at its lowest in the occupied countries at the height of the German scourge. There are no doubt many excellent arguments for reducing the working hours of MPs—not the least being to reduce the bulk of repressive and irrelevant legislation.

For their health, however, the prescription must be to close the colleges during facilities in the House and to institute regular "jogging" round Parliament Square.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. HEALD,
Highfield,
Sherborne Road,
Basingstoke.

Democracy and the NUJ

From Miss Angela Phillips, and others
Sir, We used to think that Bro Levin was just a cause for concern, but lately we've started to wonder if he is in fact an agent provocateur for some extreme left power! Over the last few months he has achieved in the London Freelance Branch of the NUJ something that a small nucleus of agitators and wingers had totally failed to do in the past. Until he started attending meetings, about two years ago, we on the left met sporadically in twos and threes over a pint. We made no real links or newsworthy side from the official branch one. Now we have a regular newsletter and well attended "Left Group" meetings to discuss those matters which have been designated as "political" and therefore "time-wasting" at branch meetings: such as combating racism and sexism in the media, promoting women's rights and forging stronger links with other union branches. Levin has engendered a feeling of wonderful solidarity among people of such disparate political beliefs as socialist/feminist, Anarchist, Trotskyist and Libertarian Socialist—an almost unheard-of phenomenon on the Left.

We may be in a minority since branch meetings have been flooded out by Levinites who read books throughout the debate and vote when they see a white sleeve go up in the front row, but we are growing rapidly and gaining credibility amongst those who still have the power to reason.

How has Mr Levin achieved this? Well the real coup came last month when he and his committee pushed through an eight-page set of standing orders to replace the original two pages. The branch received the proposals without prior warning and with one weekend to formulate any amendments. (The new standing orders ensure that any future amendments will require 65 days' notice for consideration—what a pity they didn't start as they meant to continue.) In spite of the rush at least eight pages of amendments were tabled by a number of branch members and two further pages indicated which amendments had

Money supply and inflation

From Professor Ivor H. Mills
Sir, Professor Lord Kaldor today (March 31) states that "there is no historical evidence whatever" that the money supply determines the future movement of prices with a time lag of two years. May I refer Professor Kaldor to your article in The Times of July 13, 1976. It contains the following figures:

Excess money supply	Increase in prices
per cent	per cent
1965 4.7	2.5 1967
1966 1.9	4.7 1968
1967 7.8	5.4 1969
1968 4.0	6.4 1970
1969 1.3	8.4 1971
1970 7.8	7.1 1972
1971 11.4	9.2 1973
1972 23.4	16.1 1974
1973 22.2	24.2 1975

If one calculates the correlation between these two sets of figures the coefficient $r=0.948$ and since there are seven degrees of freedom the P value is less than 0.01. If Mr Rees-Mogg's figures are correct, this would appear to a biologist to be a highly significant correlation, for it means that the probability of the correlation occurring by chance is less than one in a hundred. Most betting men would think that those were impressive odds.

Until Professor Kaldor can show a fallacy in the figures, I think Mr Rees-Mogg has fully established his point.

Yours faithfully,
IVOR H. MILLS,
University of Cambridge Clinical School,
Department of Medicine,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Hills Road,
Cambridge,
March 31.

From Mr D. G. Johnson
Sir, In your leading article of March 30 you argue that control of the money supply is "a much more important question than the negotiation of pay policy" in reducing inflation. But is not control of the money supply itself dependent on the negotiation of pay policy in the public sector? The incomes of their employees form a large part of government and local authority expenditure and unless these incomes are controlled any government will find itself compelled to create new money to pay essential public services. While monetarism would work in a pure market economy, the advance of collectivism seems to me to require its reinforcement by a pay policy.

Another problem monetarists tend to evade is the possibility of a different supply of money during inflation through an increase in the velocity of circulation, as happened in Germany in 1923 when people rushed to convert money into goods.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. JOHNSON,
Chairman,
Geo Basser Holdings Ltd,
PO Box 80,
Sheffield,
April 1.

From Mr William A. Allen
Sir, Mr Martin Bullin asserts (March 1) that to display Turners in Somerset House would be to submit them to unjustified physical risks and to endanger the original structure of the building.

Mr Kitson in turn hoped (March 12) that attempts to find ways of adapting the building to take paintings without endangering them will not be given up.

There is certainly no need to do so, for the building presents no obviously insurmountable difficulties and has several favourable features. The thick and solid walls with their traditional plaster linings would help to maintain a stable indoor climate. The windows are mostly limited in size and deeply recessed, again favouring the climate and removing the risk of overheating. Only one room has that risk from daylight and it is easily controlled. The artificial lighting can be done with complete sensitivity. The humidity limits desirable for conservation appear to be within reach of modern ventilation equipment aided by the stabilizing effect of the structure. The new ceiling is drier than one would normally recommend in the interest of the best kind of illumination, but it is not too serious a matter. And so on. Many buildings in Britain and elsewhere are not so well adapted to the great collections they hold. As for risks to the building itself, it is not easy to see what these are: I can find none.

An eminent civil servant once remarked to me at an awkward moment in a meeting that if a matter appears at first to be difficult, it could with care and diligence be made impossible. Let us eschew that approach. Somerset House would be a marvellous, enjoyable place in which to see the Turners, and we can make it work if we have the will to do so.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM ALLEN,
16 New End, NW3,
March 23.

From Mrs Olive Fuller
Sir, I can assure Mr John Percival (March 30) that the Greater London Council retain the use of the collective nouns for Council and Committees, i.e. "the Council" is always a singular noun but "Committee" is a plural noun. "The Council has agreed" but "The Committee have agreed". Furthermore, fullstops are not used after a contraction, e.g. street becomes St., but are used after an abbreviation, e.g. admin for administrative. Mr Percival has recently received a letter from the GLC in which all note that no commas are used in the address, no th or st after a date, e.g. 1st or 4th of the month and also that London is not used at all, only a postal code. This is a saving of typists' time and also a proper but tedious time for new staff to learn when joining the Council's secretarial staff.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVE FULLER,
37 Sherborne House,
Abbots Manor, SW1,
March 30.

Collective noun and verb

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OLIVE FULLER,
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March 30.

NIBBLING AT BERLIN

Some odd things are happening in Berlin. None is very important in itself but put together they show that the Soviet Union and East Germany are nibbling away at the delicate and peculiar arrangements which are supposed to govern the city becoming the cause of another east-west confrontation.

For instance, East German border guards at city crossings now sport new armbands indicating that they are guarding a state frontier rather than sector boundary. Control points between East Berlin and East Germany have been abandoned. The gazette in which East German laws were formally made applicable to East Berlin has not been published since the autumn, ostensibly because of a paper shortage but more probably in order to remove yet another vestige of four-power responsibility for East Berlin. Foreigners crossing from West Berlin to East Berlin are now required to pay for a visa and road tax and they are not allowed to stay overnight. And then, of course, there is the increase in Russian troops in East Germany by about 50 per cent in the past six years, so that they now have 93,000 within twenty miles of Berlin.

It can be asked whether any of this matters very much. After all, in functional terms East Berlin is the capital of East Germany, and it is a curious anomaly that troops of the three western allies drive through the

streets every day, besides going over individually to the opera and other recreations (there were 67,000 allied crossings last year). The main answer is that the Quadripartite Agreement signed in 1971 by the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union says that "the four governments agree that, irrespective of the differences in legal views, the situation which has developed in the area, and as it is defined in this Agreement as well as in other agreements entered into in this Agreement shall not be changed unilaterally."

This is a very clear statement. It takes account of different views but rules out attempts to assert them. The view of the Russians is that the four-power status now applies only to West Berlin, where they also have free access. The view of the west is that the four wartime allies are still responsible for the whole of Berlin. This difference is the reason why the Quadripartite Agreement refers only to "the relevant area", leaving each side its own interpretation. But the agreement to leave unchanged the present situation commits all four.

There are probably three main reasons why the Russians are allowing small breaches in the Agreement. One is to test western reaction. Another is to warn West Germany against developing more ties with West Berlin (although this is specifically permitted in the Agree-

ment). A third is to conciliate and support the East German Government, which finds the present situation uncomfortable and humiliating, especially now that it has achieved practically world-wide diplomatic recognition. East Germany has been under stress recently, coping with dissident writers, applications for emigration, millions of West German visitors, higher Soviet fuel prices, and complaints from its allies that it is living rather better than is consistent with the egalitarian principles of Comecon development.

So far the Russians have avoided a direct challenge to western rights in Berlin. They know this would provoke a major confrontation. They must also be restrained by an interest in maintaining their own rights, which are linked with those of the western allies. They do not trust Germans on either side and they have wider concerns than the East German Government.

Up to a point, therefore, the west can rely for restraint on Russian self-interest, as well as on the £10m or so that East Germany makes a year out of the Berlin arrangements (for instance, it charges road tolls but gets the West Germans to pay for road repairs). However, each small change in the situation brings nearer the threshold of crisis. The Russians should be advised to stop nibbling at the delicate game of securing minor points can still be played in safety.

David Wood

European elections: the best choice

We all know why the Government's freezing White Paper on European direct elections shied away from any decision and merely gave an account of the only four practical choices open to Parliament. First, the Government has run into trouble enough on the devolution bill, and flinches from rushing into another constitutional Bill. Second, by European Bill will resurrect a bitter parliamentary campaign against United Kingdom membership of the EEC, and split Labour again. Third, in the Commons a weakened Government needs a period of convalescence, and in the country it is notably losing popularity.

In these circumstances, the White Paper's tactics must be reckoned sound. The noncommittal one of the document, I am convinced, implies no lack of conviction in Mr Callaghan to fulfil his summit pledge to use the Government's best endeavours to honour the Nine's timetable for direct elections in May or June next year. Nor should it imply any pusillanimity by Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, who personally drafted the White Paper over the weekend a fortnight ago.

They have prepared this way for a parliamentary debate to test the strength of the rival forces, and by implication, they have made possible a free vote on any definitive constitutional proposal they then bring forward, if only because they have declared their own hesitancy to decide the best electoral system to be used.

It is timely to state some of the facts of life as parliamentary and public consideration of the White Paper begins. Above all, a United Kingdom verdict against direct elections, or delay in honouring the Government's commitment, will

neither cause the present nominated European Parliament to dissolve nor end United Kingdom membership of the EEC. With some loss of United Kingdom representation, it would merely prolong an unsatisfactory and undemocratic European Parliament, and leave the Commission under no real control. The fundamental objective of anti-Europeanists, therefore, remains unattainable.

What, then, of the Government's proposed four choices? Any useful answer to that question should be based on experience, especially the United Kingdom experience of the European Parliament as it now is. Since January, 1973, we have sent 36 nominated MPs to the European Parliament, with the Labour Party at first unrepresented. Surprisingly, the time has been well spent. MPs have sometimes been visible, and time and again they have had to commute to Westminster abandoning plenary sessions and meetings of the bureau and committees in obedience to domestic calls. That time should not be allowed to go on much longer. Indeed, without nominating peers to the United Kingdom delegation it could not have continued at all. That should exclude on sight the most arbitrary and least democratic choice: the compulsory dual mandate, which means direct popular election of 81 members of the Commons to be MPs in both Parliaments. Practical parliamentary objections are obvious. Mr Callaghan has nearly 100 ministers tied to Westminster and Whitehall could allow a large number of its voting strength to be increasingly deployed abroad. The only remedy would be the atrocious expedient of proxy voting.

There is more to it than that, although the White Paper evades the point. European MPs will be lavishly paid, perhaps up to £25,000 a year, with generous tax concessions and a personal staff. The various heavy direct taxes on the chosen few by comparatively ill rewarded MPs of all parties left at home to do the Westminster work may easily be imagined. Nor would the dual mandate allow for the election of peers, some of whom are doing work of marked value in the European Parliament.

European experience has shown, however, that there are virtues in the nomination system now practised by the United Kingdom

parties, including two-way traffic between the two Houses.

The Parliamentary Labour Party elects delegates on a regional basis; other delegates are nominated for European service by the party leaders. The explanation is that the United Kingdom delegation should represent the regions; should include specialists in a wide variety of subjects ranging from agriculture to industry and the professions; should include a proportion of anti-Europeanists as well as deeply committed Europeans; and preferably, though not necessarily, should contain a number of reasonably competent linguists. Moreover, as many Westminster parties as possible should stand a chance of elected representation.

That broad job specification immediately turns attention to the attractions of the regional list system for direct elections, which I have reason to think commends itself to Mr Rees, and thereby by inference to the Prime Minister.

There would be difficulties inherent in the innovation as well as substantial constitutional objections, but so there are to all the other proposals. For example, it would militate against the standing of independent or younger politicians who have yet to make their names with party leaders and party managers. Yet there are distinct advantages. A regional planning framework already exists governmentally, and at the regional level, and is well organized in regions and areas (although they do not precisely match). It could allow a simple system of proportional representation that should not be beyond the wit of voters and returning officers, and Liberals would stand a fair chance that their vote, scattered ineffectually over many Westminster constituencies, would tell in a larger region. And there would be no difficulty in regional MPs speaking for specialist interests, as they do now in the Commons; or in the opening up of European service to qualify peers and non-MPs.

The regions' list system, of course, would inevitably increase party patronage and lists of Burgess' turn. But, in the end, we are seeking only the first five years of direct elections to the European Parliament. In 1983 there will have to be a uniform system of direct elections, and today's controversies will then seem futile and academic.

A tax
for all
seasons,
page 17

British AGR system back in favour for next stage of nuclear power stations

By Roger Vielvoys

British-designed advanced gas cooled reactors (AGRs), once discredited because of technical problems and the high cost of construction, are now regarded as favourites to fuel the next generation of nuclear power stations.

Government and the electricity authorities are looking more favourably on the AGR system after the first two commercial stations at Hinkley in Somerset and Hunterston in Strathclyde have been working successfully for more than a year and are producing the cheapest electricity in Britain. A final decision on which type of reactor should be chosen as the first commercial order for the National Nuclear Corporation will be taken by Mr Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, in the summer and should end the desperate middle into which British nuclear policy has slipped.

Mr Benn will take the decision after receiving a report from the Nuclear Inspectorate on safety aspects of the American-designed pressurized water reactors and the British AGRs and the steam generating heavy-water reactor (SGHWR) and the American PWRs. Both reports are expected to be on his desk by June.

The important reassessment which was to be completed this month, was commissioned by the Government last autumn after Sir John Hill, chairman of the Atomic Energy Authority, had advised Mr Benn against further development of the SGHWR, chosen in 1974 for commercial development by the Nuclear Power Company. Sir John blamed rising costs



Mr Benn: final decision this summer.

associated with launching a new type of reactor that could not be recovered from a nuclear building programme of only 4,000 MW—two stations, one at Sizewell in Suffolk, and the other at Torness, near Inverness. He was also concerned about poor export prospects for the system.

During the 1974 debate on the type of reactor Britain should adopt for the next generation of nuclear power stations, the AGR was dismissed as an early stage. Then the reactors were several years behind construction schedule, and overran their costs estimates by several hundred million pounds and had still not produced a single unit of electricity.

Since the Hinkley Point B station in Somerset has been commissioned the attitude of the Central Electricity Generat-

ing Board has changed considerably. The system has worked well. Problems with insulation have not materialized and an AGR design adapted to ensure that engineers could be given access to the reactor to make repairs would probably not be adopted by the generating board.

By the time Mr Benn takes his decision, Britain's ailing power generation industry should be on the way to rationalization in one form or another. However, a week of indecision by the two ministries deeply concerned with mapping the future for the industry, has raised serious doubts among executives in the troubled supply companies.

With Mr Benn and Mr Varley, the Secretary of State for Industry, both supporting the advanced ordering of the second stage of the coal-fired power station at Drax in Yorkshire, it looked as though a decision on principle could be announced before the Easter holiday.

But apparently Mr Benn and Mr Varley were unable to find time for an important meeting on the consultations they have had with outside bodies on the problems of the industry. And with Mr Benn in Washington for the first part of this week there is little prospect of the meeting and therefore any public announcement being made this side of the holiday.

C. A. Parsons, the Newcastle-based turbine manufacturer, which has been delaying refund applications in the hope of a favourable decision on Drax, is now growing impatient.

However, the problems of the power generation industry have evidently attracted the attention of the Prime Minister who is also in favour of an early decision.

Reserves in March set for all-time peak

By Caroline Atkinson

Figures to be published today are expected to show Britain's official reserves at their highest ever level. The previous peak was in November, 1974, when they reached \$7,324m. A month ago the reserves stood at \$7,787m (\$4,546m).

The expected rise in March—the third month running—reflects the considerable intervention by the Bank of England in the foreign exchange markets during the month. This was needed to hold down the value of the pound against other currencies in line with the Government's policy of preserving the price competitiveness of British goods.

Despite strong demand for sterling throughout most of March its exchange rate against the dollar was less than a cent higher at the end of the month—at \$1.72—than at the beginning.

Dealers estimate that the Bank may have bought over \$1,000m of foreign currency during March, but not all of this will show up in today's figures. This is because the big inflow of funds in the post-Budget euphoria on Wednesday, and to a lesser extent, Thursday of last week, was not valued until Friday. It will, therefore, be included in the April total.

Further drawing on the \$1,500m Eurodollar loan arranged by the Government earlier this year, probably added \$750m to the reserves in March after a \$250m drawing in February. This would leave \$500m to be drawn in six months' time, as agreed when the loan was set up.

There is, however, have been no more to the March reserves from the IMF loan. The next instalment cannot be drawn until after the IMF team of economists have visited Britain to monitor the progress of the Government's economic policy. And that visit will probably take place soon after Easter.

Official borrowing under the exchange cover scheme, which helped to bolster the reserves last year, has now been brought virtually to a standstill.

Mr Shore's appeal decisions disappoint retailers

By Patricia Tiedall

Hopes that government planners were becoming more sympathetic to hypermarkets and superstore schemes have been dashed by a series of appeal decisions made by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Last week, Tesco, one of the biggest of the supermarket groups, was told that an appeal against a local authority refusal of a 90,000 sq ft store near Newton Abbot in Devon had been rejected by Mr Shore.

In March, an appeal by Sainsbury for a 53,800 sq ft store at Chichester was also refused after a local public inquiry. In both cases, the Secretary of State agreed with the view of the inquiry inspector.

The Tesco application it was felt that although the proposed new store would not seriously affect trade in Newton Abbot, smaller centres at Ashburton and Bovey-Tracey were less able to withstand the effects of lost trade—in particular, the loss of the supermarket groups are much less

hopeful of being allowed to go ahead. Last year, the supermarket companies felt that there had been a change of heart in government attitudes when the Department of the Environment set out a revised policy note dealing with large stores. They are bitterly disappointed at the latest decisions.

Because of the costs involved, which, according to Mr Leslie, Porter, chairman of Tesco, may amount to "tens of thousands of pounds" and sometimes as much as the cost of the land itself, only a minority of planning applications are taken to an appeal. The department is informed only about the largest stores (revised from 50,000 sq ft of gross trading area to 100,000 sq ft and above in the draft policy note). Most applications for superstores are considered at local level only.

The supermarket groups complain that there is widespread confusion among local government planners about superstore proposals. However, after the latest series of decisions, the supermarket groups are much less

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American TV critics silenced by profits

America's three top television networks—CBS, NBC and ABC—are often criticized for their financial excesses, and yet they continually stun their critics by making handsome profits.

"As you know," says Mr Karl Eller, "television is growing. Television is continually getting its share of the advertising market."

Mr Eller is president of Combined Communications Incorporated, which last week spent about \$100m (£60m) to buy a local television station. Everybody in the American television business would agree with his comments, and his record deal caused little surprise among industry experts.

To suggest that American television companies are extravagant when spending on programmes, performers or stations, is merely to underestimate realities about this bewildering business.

Many people considered ABC to have gone quite crazy last year when they offered Miss Barbara Walters a five-year \$5m contract to become one of two regular anchors on its evening news programme.

Miss Walters is elegant and competent, but few people considered her—or anyone else—worth \$1m a year to read the news.

But ABC knew what it was doing. So far, viewers ratings have risen about two points, an additional \$2m a year in advertising revenue.

ABC is certainly not the only big spender around, although it looked that way when it paid out \$25m last year for the United States exclusive rights to broadcast the Olympic Games.

NBC recently agreed to spend about \$85m for the American exclusive rights for the Olympics in Moscow in 1980.

Some people take the view that NBC has really gone mad in paying such a sum, but then the company was widely criticised last year when it announced that it was paying \$5m for the exclusive right to show the ancient film *Gone with the Wind*. The company laughed all the way to the bank over this particular deal. It charged \$250,000 per minute to advertisers and made a profit of about \$2.5m.

The big television companies are spending so heavily that the film industry is experiencing a revolution. Films with top stars such as Elizabeth Taylor are being specially made for them and distributed to cinemas only after they have been shown on television.

Recent experiments with serials, such as *Rich Man, Poor Man*, have been so successful that tens of millions of dollars are being laid out by the companies to make more of them.

The scale of operations in the United States is so great that golden opportunities may well be in the offering for British producers. Programmes like *Upstairs, Downstairs* and *The Pallisers* have been watched carefully by the big network producers here, and their success on the small public broadcasting system might lead to sales of other British programmes to the big companies.

A few could even have a significant effect on Britain's balance of payments given the huge sums of cash now involved.

Frank Vogl

Exxon sees shortfall in other fuels

By Our Energy Correspondent

Estimates of the contribution that nuclear energy can make towards meeting world demand for power into the 1990s have been downgraded in the latest *World Energy Outlook*, prepared by the Exxon Corporation.

No oil supplies—coal, nuclear, synthetic oil, gas, hydro, solar and geothermal energy—were expected to double in volume by 1990, but would still account for only 52 per cent of energy supply, against 47 per cent of consumption at present.

Exxon says this projection is lower than the 1973 pre-crisis outlook despite the new emphasis on higher prices and increased concern about the security of energy supplies.

The revised forecasts reflect delays in making important policy decisions by governments and a more experienced view of how fast resources can be found and developed, the company says.

Conservation is key to Carter energy policy

From Our US Economics Correspondent

Washington, April 3

President Carter aims to bring about a considerable reduction in United States dependence on foreign oil, while cutting in half the annual rate of increase of total American energy consumption.

The energy plan, he announced on April 20, will include a stiff tax on large cars, a levy on petrol and proposals for tax relief for people on low incomes to offset energy rises.

It will be "tough, but it will be sensible as well. Americans are going to have to live in well-insulated homes and use fuel-efficient automobiles."

Dr James Schlesinger, the administration's top energy policy adviser, today outlined the main aims of the plan. The United States currently imports about 10 million barrels of oil a day, uses about 19 million barrels daily, and within a few years it is hoped that imports will be down to about one third.

He said: "We are running out of oil and gas in this country and unless we start taking conservation seriously, then we will run flat out of these energy sources in 20 or 25 years."

Dr Schlesinger stated in a television interview that some increase in overall energy consumption must be expected in coming years, but that it is hoped that oil consumption will be reduced to 15 to 16 million barrels daily by 1985.

Savings of one and a half million barrels daily would be possible in transportation by 1985, with a similar volume of savings from housing, industry, and other areas.

He said United States energy consumption was rising by about 4 per cent a year, resulting in a doubling of energy needs every 17 years. And it is hoped that energy conservation measures can be held to under 2 per cent a year to ensure that demand doubles only every 40 years.

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Mini replacement 'essential', dealers say

By Clifford Webb

Members of Leyland's distributor-dealer network have insisted that a replacement for the present Mini was absolutely essential for Leyland to maintain its traditional market leadership in Britain.

If the £200m new Mini project is axed during the present reappraisal of all Leyland car operations, they predict widespread dealer desertions, most of whom will be snapped up by competitors.

Last Tuesday Leyland announced it had frozen all capital expenditure on projects like the new Mini for at least three months until the internal reappraisal had been completed, and pronounced on by the National Enterprise Board.

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, is expected to announce the decision on the Mini project.

The present 18-year-old model is still capable of taking 6 to 7 per cent of the United Kingdom market when it is freely available—a position dealers have not enjoyed for some time because of strikes.

Despite the month-long tool-makers' dispute which dented production of most Leyland models the Mini still managed to outsell the new Ford Fiesta last month.

Dealers Bovey, chairman of P. J. Evans, Leyland's biggest distributor in the Midlands, said: "We can still sell all the Minis we can get. We must have something in the future to enable us to continue to meet this strong demand."

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White-collar men may resort to 'moonlighting'

By Our Financial Staff

White-collar workers could soon be bartering for services instead of paying cash, according to Mr Len Beach, director of personnel and corporate affairs for IBM (UK).

He believes that unless some form of barter is introduced, many managers will be pressing for more perks, and "moonlighting".

Taxation and inflation could force employers to concede perks on a scale agreed in Israel—cars, interest-free or low-interest loans, clothing allowance, marriage and birth gifts, and rental of company-owned assets.

On bartering, Mr Beach, in an article in *Personnel Management*, says: "The first thing since November producing 400 cars worth just over £800,000. There was Sunday overtime a week ago but that was in lieu of an Easter shift.

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Barclays to meet Swapo

By Our Financial Staff

Barclays Bank's senior management in London has agreed to a request to meet representatives of Swapo, the Organisation to Discuss the South African Investment in Southern Africa.

But the bank has denied any knowledge of reports that a decision has been taken by its 64 per cent-owned South African National Bank to sell the controversial £5.5m holding of defence bonds bought last year.

Barclays has, however, already made known its unhappiness about the bond purchase.

Wednesday Barclays will hold a meeting and is expected to meet a hostile barrage of questions over its involvement in Southern Africa.

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Capital Radio reports a profit of £768,000

By Our Financial Staff

Capital Radio, largest in terms of listeners of Britain's 19 independent radio companies, has firmly turned the corner into profitability. Sir Richard Attenborough, Capital's chairman, reports today that the company has enjoyed a trading profit of £768,000 for the year ending September 30 compared with a trading loss of £182,000 in the previous year.

Increased advertising revenue last year raised Capital's turnover by nearly £2m to £4m. During the calendar year 1976, the network as a whole earned £14.5m compared with £8.5m the year before. The first two months of 1977, with revenue standing at around £2.5m, are showing increases of around 50 per cent on last year.

In the company's current financial year Capital's liability for Independent Broadcasting Authority primary rental, the fee to independent radio news and royalties will account for £1.4m of total expenditure, of which 50 per cent will be represented by royalty payments on music.

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Lending rate 9½ pc

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate is set at 9½ per cent on Thursday. Friday's Treasury Bill rate was consistent with MLR at this level and the market-related formula for setting MLR has consequently been reactivated. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury Bill Tender:

Appointments vacant: 6

Business appointments: 16

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Stock, 1982:

'Irresponsible' wages inflation blamed for UK's economic plight

Britain's economy turned entirely on the future of incomes policy and successful curbing of the upward movement of wages, according to Lord Kahn, the Cambridge economist, in the April edition of *Lloyds Bank Review*.

The state of the economy and the "massive unemployment" were because of output and income having to be sufficiently low to keep imports down to a level at which the current account balance of payments could be financed by the facilities made available by the International Monetary Fund and central banks, he said.

The imposed conditions had to be accepted in consideration of accepting their help.

This is the result of "the utterly irresponsible wage inflation" from which the economy suffered so severely until about two years ago, Lord Kahn added.

Professor John Letiche, of the University of California, writing in the review, says that in the long run the drastic rise in oil prices must further influence the trend towards more efficient energy produc-

tion and consumption patterns. "The OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries have failed to achieve a workable, comprehensive energy programme, and the need for it is still vital", he adds.

But the future prospects for the non-oil producing, less developed, countries do not appear favourable.

The "best available evidence" of the World Bank suggests that the real prices (when compared with other prices) of primary products in 1980, as well as in 1985, will be lower than the 1967-1969 level.

Less developed countries are likely to be faced with a rise in prices of their imports of manufactured goods and capital equipment, he says.

Professor Brian Reddaway, of Cambridge, writing in the review, says a stationary population in the United Kingdom would be of more benefit to the economy than a rising one.

It would, for instance, make the future balance of payments problem easier because imports would be reduced and the need to increase exports less important.



Mr Willy de Clercq, Belgian finance minister, who announced at the weekend that Sweden, Denmark and Norway will devalue today against German, Dutch, Belgian and Luxembourg currencies inside the "snake".

While the timing of Friday's decision to devalue the Scandinavian currencies inside the joint European float came as a surprise, the move can be seen as a shrewd preemptive stroke by the monetary authorities of the "snake".

In fundamental economic terms there has been a growing divergence in performance

between Denmark, Norway and Sweden and the more southerly members of the European joint float—in particular West Germany.

The three countries which devalued have large payments deficits on current account, while Germany is still running a big surplus, even though on latest estimates it should be halved to between DM3,000m and DM4,000m this year.

Domestic inflation in the Scandinavian countries is running at around 9 per cent or 10 per cent per annum, or twice Germany's present annual rate of inflation.

Consultants urge tax cuts to spur technology

By Kenneth Owen

A report published today says the British and West German governments should change their taxation systems—and in particular should cut income tax in order to encourage the creation and growth of technology-based companies.

Both governments should also channel more of their research and development spending into such concerns. The report was prepared by the Arthur D. Little Consultancy for the Anglo-German Foundation for the Study of Industrial Society.

The number of new technology-based firms is low in both countries, the report indicates, and their performance in general is not impressive when compared to the United States. The report also points out that R&D Electronics in Britain and Nixdorf Computers in Germany.

Britain has about 200 new technology-based firms, Germany has fewer, and in each country their sales total about £200m. But four companies account for over half the United Kingdom figure, while Nixdorf represents almost two thirds of the German total.

By contrast, there are several thousand such firms in the United States, whose total sales run into billions of dollars. The low level of activity in Britain and Germany has significant long-term implications, the report says. The two countries are neglecting three factors:

First, an important channel for the transfer of technology and innovation. Secondly, the development of a new generation of modern industries which are needed to provide future employment and exports. Thirdly, the value of new technology-based firms in maintaining a competitive environment in the face of the increasing power of big corporations.

Dwindling risk of death from gas explosions

The chances of a person being killed in a gas explosion in Britain are the same as those of being killed by the bite of a venomous animal, and comparable with that of being killed by lightning, according to Mr. C. J. Brown, director of engineering, East Midlands Gas Board.

Speaking at a gas safety exhibition in Leicester, Mr. Brown said that over the past five years an average of 12 people had died each year in gas explosions in Britain. This was to be compared with the total number of deaths from accidents of all kinds—about 18,000 each year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Brussels proposals on lorry weight limits will put up transport costs

From Mr H. R. Featherstone

Sir, In his outcry against any increase in goods vehicle weights your correspondent John W. Parton (March 31) displays a lamentable lack of knowledge both about goods vehicles and, somewhat surprisingly, about the River Thames, whose society he represents.

Brussels' new proposals are vastly different from those put forward in 1965-69. In order to meet British objections the gross weight has been reduced to 40 tonnes and the axle weight—and this is what counts in terms of road wear—to the existing 10 ton British level. In addition there will be tight control of smoke and noise.

Mr Parton's introduction of a note of concern for various Thames bridges is a red herring. Of the eight bridges mentioned over half are already subject to a weight restriction which prohibits their use by many present vehicles let alone the 40 tonner.

Like so many anti-road trans-

port campaigners, Mr Parton throws in the in-vogue catch phrases "integrated transport policy" and "coordinated framework", when what he really means is transfer of traffic to rail or water regardless of the economic consequences.

The plain truth is that trade and industry already has an extremely integrated approach to transport using a mix of modes to suit the job in hand. The Chancellor's double attack on road transport in his Budget will put up transport costs—and that means the cost of everything we consume or export—by £150m per annum. Allowing for increased vehicle weights would save a shade of that amount, reduce the number of vehicles required to move Britain's goods, and cut road wear per ton of goods moved significantly.

Yours faithfully,
H. R. FEATHERSTONE,
Freight General,
Freight Transport Association,
Hermes House,
St John's Road,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent TN1 9UZ,
April 1.

The independent advisory role of ACAS

From Mr J. E. Mortimer

Sir, May I correct two inaccuracies in Mr T. Mercer's letter of March 29?

Mr Mercer sought information from ACAS on trade union recognition and union membership agreements. This information was given.

ACAS did not advise "join the union or go out of business". When parties to a dispute seek help from ACAS part of our role is to assess the situation and to outline to both sides the views of the other side. This is very different from advising on a particular course of action.

Secondly, ACAS is not a government department but an independent organization created to help employers and unions in their industrial relations difficulties. ACAS is controlled by a council which operates impartially and independently of government.

Yours sincerely,
J. E. MORTIMER,
Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service,
Cleveland House,
Page Street,
London SW1P 4ND,
March 31.

Gas pipeline could transform Cromarty Firth

Industry in the regions

An area in the far north of Scotland with a population of only about 35,000, which boasts an aluminium smelter and an oil platform construction site, and has plans for an oil refinery, hardly seems in need of further development.

Yet the Cromarty Firth, just north of Inverness, could be on the verge of petrochemical development which might produce a new Teesside in the Highlands.

The deep sheltered waters of the Firth, more than 15 miles long, and the relative abundance of flat land give Cromarty geographical advantages which compensate for its distance from Britain's industrial heartland.

As well as the industrial plants and service depots operating along the north shore of the Firth, the refinery proposed by Cromarty Petroleum at Nigg, near the mouth of the Firth, looks like being built soon, and certainly its presence would boost the possibility of petrochemical development.

But the key to the future of Cromarty Firth lies elsewhere, with the proposal for a gas-gathering pipeline from the North Sea oilfields.

There is no certainty that the study presently being carried out for the Government will recommend a go-ahead for the scheme, nor that it will recom-

mend that the landfall for the pipeline should be at Cromarty, nor even that the landfall would lead automatically to petrochemical development in that area.

But despite all these qualifications, Cromarty's chances do not appear to be bad. At a conference on the industrial future of the area, held last week in Inverness, Mr Ian Clark, of the British National Oil Corporation, warned delegates that while nothing might happen at Cromarty, there could be petrochemical development on a scale which would dwarf the £500m-£600m being spent at Sullom Voe in the Shetlands, and which could make oil-related developments at Aberdeen look like child's play.

He said later that the gas-gathering pipeline would be the trigger for the whole process of development, and he clearly had little doubt that the petrochemical plants would follow the gas.

Backing for his views was provided by a speech from Mr Bernard Asher, Industrial Director of the National Economic Development Office, who

emphasized that the Government's strategy was to gain the maximum possible value from oil and gas before its products were exported.

Thus the Government is looking beyond petroleum refining and the cracking of the ethylene to the area of plastics materials. Mr Asher pointed out that apart from the cost advantages of processing oil and gas in Scotland, there were many potential environmental advantages, particularly in comparison with Rhine and Mediterranean locations, for instance, well-served deep sea sites meant that stringent and expensive pollution control was unnecessary.

Comparisons with Western Europe are not all favourable: plant construction takes longer in Britain, productivity per employee is lower and international companies continue to have fears about industrial unrest. These fears could be fed by the latest strikes involving the British Aluminium smelter at Invergordon and the Highland Fabricators platform yard at Nigg Bay.

Nevertheless, the shortage of suitable sites for major develop-

ment puts Cromarty strongly in the running. Mr E. D. Loughney, managing director of Cromarty Petroleum, argues that between the North Sea and the Ruhr "there is only one empty halfway house en route: the Cromarty Firth".

The remoteness of the area still presents transport and communications difficulties, although much is being done. The A9 road from Perth up through the Highlands is being completely rebuilt, at a cost of £10m, and British Rail is spending several million pounds on improvements to the rail route from Perth to Inverness.

While the local authorities offer a warm welcome to developers, the local community may not yet have realized that petrochemical plants can be somewhat noxious neighbours.

Environmental protection could pose problems: despite the concentration of industry there already, the Firth remains an attractive area and it also contains two important bird sanctuaries, whose inhabitants could easily fall prey to pollution.

Certainly if they are going to have another Teesside at Cromarty, the local people better hope that they don't reproduce the small as well.

Martin Huckerby

Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale Limited

"Consolidation and Progress"

A summary of the Statements by the Chairman of Kleinwort, Benson, Lonsdale Limited, Sir Cyril Kleinwort, and the Chairman of Kleinwort, Benson Limited, Mr. Robert Henderson, in the 1976 Report and Accounts. It is encouraging to be able to report that the profits of the Group have again increased after yet another difficult year, and on behalf of shareholders I should like to congratulate all employees of the Group on this achievement. I say this with particular feeling as initiative and inventiveness are the necessary qualities required to attain these results, given the background of discouraging economic conditions internationally.

The Directors recommend the declaration of a final ordinary dividend of 2.17889p per share, which, with the interim dividend of 1.51p per share paid in November, makes a total of 3.68889p per share for the year compared with 3.46p per share for 1975.

CYRIL H. KLEINWORT

Kleinwort, Benson Limited

In the unsettled financial markets of recent years, the ability to adapt to changing conditions, which has been important throughout the history of merchant banks, was again demonstrated in 1976. I am therefore pleased to be able to report a year of consolidation and of progress.

A particularly satisfactory aspect of our banking activities has been the increase in sterling acceptance credit and loan facilities which we have made available to British companies to finance working capital and investment. Despite the difficulties caused for London based banks by the restrictions which have been imposed to defend a debilitated currency, our banking business earned profits in 1976 appreciably higher than those of any other year, notwithstanding the degree of caution we have been exercising in selecting the area and credit risks undertaken, and the conservative position adopted by our money desks in financing them.

The activities of our Project Department were expanded in 1976. Contracts were concluded covering around £142 million of finance for exports of British goods and services to four countries. Advisory assignments relating to large projects continued with the Governments of Hong Kong and Venezuela, and new advisory contracts were entered into with an agency of the Iranian Government and with private clients in Britain, Italy and Japan.

The year has also been a successful one for our Investment Division. We have increased the funds under management, and the income we derive from this business is significantly above last year's level, while direct expenses have been contained. The funds which we advise, comprising investments in the United Kingdom and overseas, including our offshore funds, have again done well this year.

The Corporate Finance Division had a record year in terms of revenue earned. The flow of rights issues which began in the second half of 1975 continued through the early part of 1976 and this was followed in the latter half of the year by a renewal of merger activity in which we played an active part. More money was raised on the Eurobond market in 1976 than in any previous year.

During the year, the Hamilton Brothers consortium drilled a further production well in the North Sea which enabled the output from the Argyll Field, in which we hold a 23 per cent interest, to be increased to an average of 22,000 barrels per day. We anticipate a significant continuing revenue from this source for the next few years.

Despite the reduced activity in the precious metals markets in 1976, Sharps Pixley, our bullion dealing subsidiary in London and New York, again produced satisfactory results. Our 51 per cent owned subsidiary, Sharps Pixley Wardley Limited, commenced business in Hong Kong in March 1976 and has made an encouraging start. The commodity trading and broking subsidiaries both produced record profits.

Our overseas offices have all had an active year. The companies in Jersey and Guernsey have again achieved excellent results, with those in Belgium and Switzerland also earning increased profits. In the Middle East, the reorganisation of our activities is bearing fruit in a number of fields.

At the end of 1976, we completed an agreement with Goldman, Sachs & Co. and their investment management team, as a result of which Kleinwort Benson McCowan Incorporated, a registered investment adviser in which we have a 40 per cent interest, has come into existence in New York and is developing well.

World trade in 1977 is not increasing as much as many had hoped, and the fact that interest rates in other countries are at lower levels than have been seen for some years is the result of subdued demand for loans from industry and commerce, which in turn reflects a low level of activity. In the United Kingdom, the expected benefits from the development of North Sea oil and gas are counter-balanced by an increasingly uneasy political and industrial picture. It is difficult to be optimistic while this continues, but I am confident that the strength of our organisation and the breadth of our operations will ensure another active year.

R. A. HENDERSON

20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DB

JERSEY • GUERNSEY • BRUSSELS • GENEVA • PARIS • ROME • NEW YORK • CHICAGO • TOKYO
HONG KONG • SINGAPORE • BAHRAIN • TEHRAN

Business appointments

Six executive directors at S G Warburg & Co

The following have been appointed executive directors of S. G. Warburg & Co with effect from April 1: Mr B. A. Brandt, Mr J. F. Difford, Mr J. A. Goodwin, Mr T. N. Harcourt-Topham, Mr R. G. Ward and Mr G. E. J. Wood.

Mr Bryan Baker has become chairman and chief executive of Tarmac Roadstone Holdings and chairman of Tarmac Building Products. Mr Roy Kettle becomes managing director of Tarmac Roadstone Holdings and Mr Bill Drayton becomes secretary. Mr Peter Woodman has been made a director.

Vacant Sandon has joined the board of Shephard Engineering.

Mr M. C. Thomas has been made chairman and chief executive of Beedwood Construction (Holdings). Mr I. S. Scott has been re-elected as chairman and director.

Mr R. J. Lupini has been appointed to the board of Lindstruts.

Mr Jack Frame, deputy chairman of Frames Tours, has been made chairman in succession to his cousin, Mr J. Wallace Frame, who has retired but who remains a director and has been made president of the company.

Mr A. G. Fowler has joined the board of Dorman Smith Holdings. Mr Morris Abbott has succeeded Mr Francis Perkins as chairman of Hogg Robinson Group. Mr Abbott remains chief executive.

Mr L. G. Dyer, who is seconded from Lloyds Bank, has been appointed to the board of First National Finance Corporation. Mr G. H. Birch, who is seconded from Midland Bank, has also joined the board.

Mr P. B. Doyle has become chairman of Booker McConnell's general engineering division and of its sugar machinery manufacturing subsidiary, Fletcher and Stewart. In succession to Mr N. A. D. Sharvell, Mr Doyle continues as chairman of Fletcher Sunlight Wild and of Central Wazon.

Mr T. Flynn and Mr D. Newman have joined the board of Tremetis Holdings. Both will remain managing directors of, respectively, Shepherd Bros (Lancs) and P. A. Stenden and Sons (Engineering).

Sir David Nicholson has joined the board of Drayton Consolidated Trust.

Mr Stuart Wallis joins the board of Heston.

Mr B. de Saint-Amant has been made a member of committee in Paris of Ottoman Bank.

Mr A. McPhee has been made an additional director of Prestige Group.

Mr John Labrey and Mr David Newlove have been appointed executive directors of R. Kelvin Watson.

Mr G. R. Satterthwaite has become a director and company secretary of Canning Town Glass and Mr P. C. Halliday becomes sales director.

Mr P. B. Brothie, Mr H. M. Bull, Mr J. S. Duthie, Mr G. Marshall and Mr R. W. Smith have been made directors of Blue Circle Insurance Services, which has been formed by the Blue Circle Group and J. H. Minet.

Mr William Milnes has become a director of Deas M. Clayton.



Mr Bryan Baker (left), the new chairman and chief executive of Tarmac Roadstone Holdings; Mr A. G. Fowler, who has joined the board of Dorman Smith Holdings.

Mr T. R. Dawson and Mr I. P. Methell have become directors of T. R. Dawson (Corporate Consultants).

Mr George Heags is to be a full-time chairman of Industrial Tribunals in the London central region.

The following have been made directors of Alexander Howden Insurance Brokers: Mr J. E. Kingston, Mr R. P. Messenger, Mr W. F. Rose, Mr A. F. Sellman, Mr D. S. Stocks and Mr P. M. J. Williams.

Mr J. S. Eley has been appointed chairman and Mr F. B. Mortimer-Ford managing director of Horace Cory. Mr Mortimer-Ford was previously joint managing director.

Mr Arthur Knogh has joined the board of Footwear Industry Investments.

Mr S. J. Monk, who has retired as a director and chairman of Fleetline Castors and Wheels, has been succeeded as chairman by Mr J. F. Cowell, who continues as chairman jointly with Mr I. A. Duck.

Mr Roger Boydland joins the main board of Kempt Group (Printers & Publishers) with special responsibility for finance.

Mr Anthony Boram has been made chairman of Mirror Books, a wholly-owned new subsidiary of Mirror Group Newspapers. Mr Peter Dutton will be deputy chairman and Mr Peter Robins managing director.

Mr Andrew Preston has been made director of Price and Pierce (Woodpulp).

Mr C. L. B. Catter joins Marling Industries as a non-executive director. Mr A. F. Smith redies but remains a non-executive chairman of Marling and Evans.

Mr R. D. Hall has become managing director of Tanton Cider.

Mr James Kneusel Jr has become executive director on the board of Thomson Yellow Pages.

Mr I. A. Pickford joins the board of Smith Kline & French Laboratories.

Mr T. Bishop has been made a director of Allseas Shipping Services.

Mr A. N. Wilson, a director of Total, becomes chairman of Lithopac succession to Mr R. F. Aukley, managing director of Total. Mr C. R. Hopwood joins the board.

THOMAS WITTER AND COMPANY, LIMITED

Manufacturers of Smooth-surfaced Floor Coverings including "Balatum", Roofing Felts, Packaging Board, Carpets, etc.

TURNOVER AND EXPORTS INCREASED PROFIT UP 51.9%

The 79th Annual General Meeting of Thomas Witter and Company, Limited, was held on April 1st at Chorley. The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr H. Bowser.

Group pre-tax profits for the year, 30th November 1976, amounted to £1,123,273, representing an increase of 51.9% on the previous year. Turnover at £21,223,000 was 18.9% more than last year.

The Board recommended a final dividend of 2.1653125p per share, making a total for the year of 2.8153125p, which, with its associated tax credit, is equivalent to a gross dividend of 17.325%, the maximum allowed under current regulations, leaving a retained profit for the year of £248,740.

My last report I stated that henceforth we could cater for markets which hitherto we had been unable to supply. The results for the past year, despite an industrial dispute which halted production and deliveries, indicate that our expectations have been, and still are, to an increasing extent, being realised.

Exports, excluding inter-group sales, were increased by 21% and we expect this upward trend to continue throughout the current year.

Our Subsidiary Companies in South Africa and Ireland had satisfactory years and our Australian Company again showed a small profit.

Being acutely conscious of the need to keep abreast of changes in the market, we are giving no effort in the development of new products in order to ensure profitability and safeguard the future interests of our shareholders and employees.

OTTOMAN BANK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with Article 29 of the Statutes, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 4th May, 1977, in THE GREAT EASTERN HOTEL (ESSEX ROOM), LIVERPOOL STREET, LONDON E.C.2 at 12.30 p.m. to receive a Report from the Committee with the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1976; to propose a Dividend; and to elect Members of the Committee.

By Article 27 of the Statutes the General Meeting is composed of holders, whether in person or by proxy or both together, of at least thirty shares, who, to be entitled to take part in the Meeting, must deposit their shares and, as may be necessary, their proxies, at the Head Office of the Company in Istanbul or at any of the various branches or offices abroad (in London at 23 Fenchurch Street, EC3P 3ED; and in Paris at 7 rue Meyerbeer, 75009) at least ten days before the date fixed for the Meeting.

The Report of the Committee and the Accounts which will be presented to the General Meeting are available to the Shareholders at the Head Office in Istanbul and at the offices in London and Paris.

R. A. SUTCH,
Secretary to the Committee

4th April, 1977.

Reading between the lines of The Anglo/Randsel takeover

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Foreign exchange. Starting spot.	was up 2.05 at 403.29. The future
1.7197 (1.7300); three months, 1.7420	index was up 2.88 at 413.58
1.7197 (1.7300); Canadian dollar, 1.5025	was up 2.88 at 413.58
(94.84)	527.56 (519.73); transportation
	2.51 (2.57); 653.97 (653.24)
	(106.02) 653.97 (653.24)

The Dow Jones spot commodity index

on week 412.5-5.6 (1.3%)

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Account Days: Dealings Began, March 28, Dealings End, April 7. § Contango Day, April 12. Settlement Day, April 21.
 § Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

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Evaluation

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A House 22-26 G
750sq ft

PLOT

Commercial Property

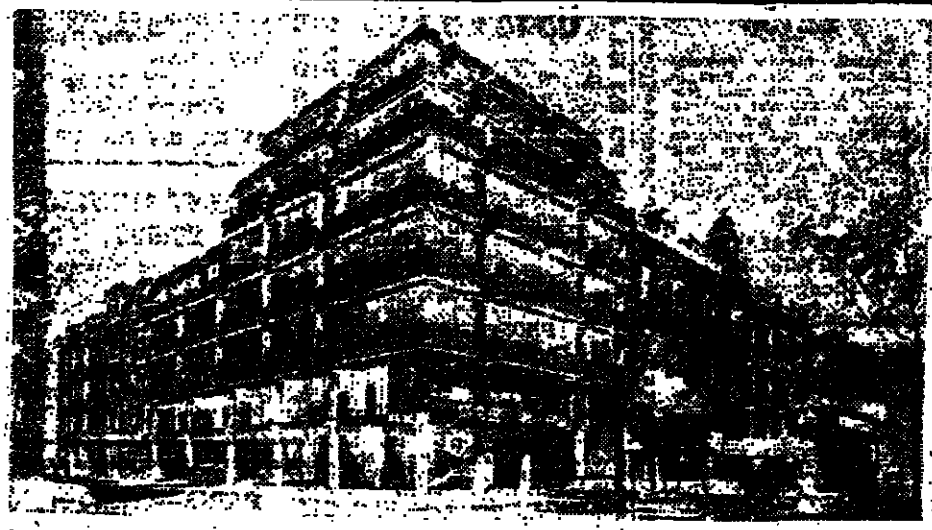
Food group planning expansion

Mac Fisheries, the retail food group owned by Unilever, is planning to expand with another 300,000 sq ft in new and larger stores within the next five years. It runs almost 70 supermarkets and 180 fish and food shops, and is looking at a stretch of country from Lancashire to Devon.

The exercise is aimed primarily at local authorities with space shopping facilities. Mac Fisheries wants stores up to 50,000 sq ft gross area in urban, district and town centres, with parking for at least 400 cars. It is prepared to develop sites for its occupation or for shopping complexes.

It intends to add to food sales such items as home-decorating goods, car accessories and children's wear. Mac Fisheries' property company is Combined Properties of Ocean House, Bracknell, Berkshire.

Letting is going well in the



An impression of Lisle House, in Shaftesbury Avenue, London, due for completion this year.

six floors, and parking space. Letting is through Jones Lang Wootton. It is Lisle's third Scottish scheme to be started in the past three weeks. The other two are office and industrial schemes in Edinburgh, Northgate House, St Augustine's Way, Dalrymple, developed by Equitable Life Assurance Society. It has about 47,000 sq ft in two interconnecting, air-conditioned blocks. Agents are Healey and Baker, jointly with Sanderson Townsend and Gilbert and Coom and Westmouthe, Dalrymple. The block is in a five-year government grant-assisted area, and the rent is £120,000 a year.

In Paris, Teesside has sold its

renovated office development at 59 Rue de l'Europe to a French institution for about 5m francs (£567,000). The 1,500 sq metre building is just off the Boulevard des Capucines. It is fully let, with most of the space occupied by the Government.

The five-storey building was

warehouse and offices when bought by Gest et Tees SA in 1972. It is Teesside's second large sale in Paris. The first was at Chateau, on the western outskirts of the city.

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Park House 22-26 Great Smith Street

11,750 sq ft

(WILL DIVIDE)

of excellent office

accommodation

TO LET

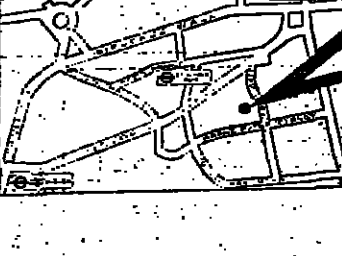
Amenities include lift,

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acres of land and 65

acres of farmland, 5

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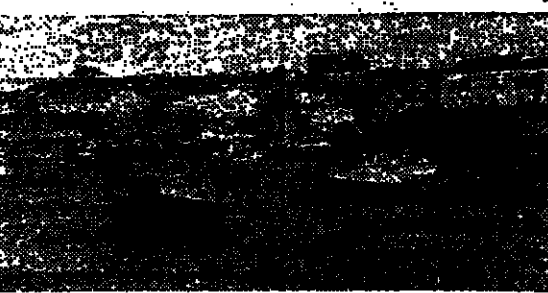
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